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# Country GUIDE

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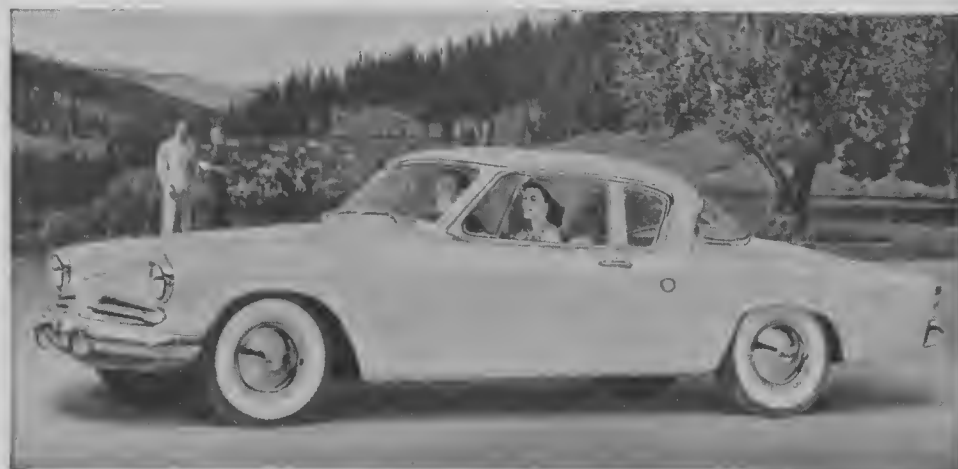
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Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

## THE *Country* GUIDE

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# They both belong in today's home!

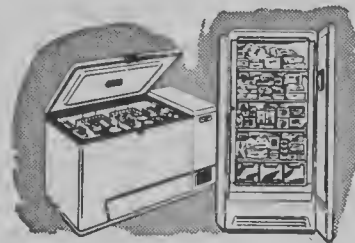


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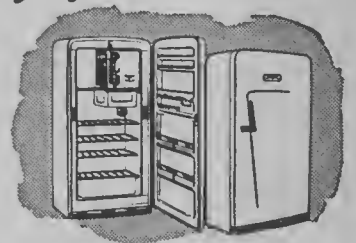
First of all, there is the *refrigerator's* vital job of keeping perishable table foods from day to day—from meal to meal. Then there is the *home freezer's* important role in keeping larger quantities of perishable foods for long periods, so that you can enjoy year-round variety and tastier, more nourishing foods . . . as well as make big savings in time, work and money by quantity buying when prices are lowest. *Both* the refrigerator and home freezer belong in *your* home.

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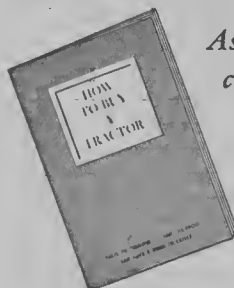
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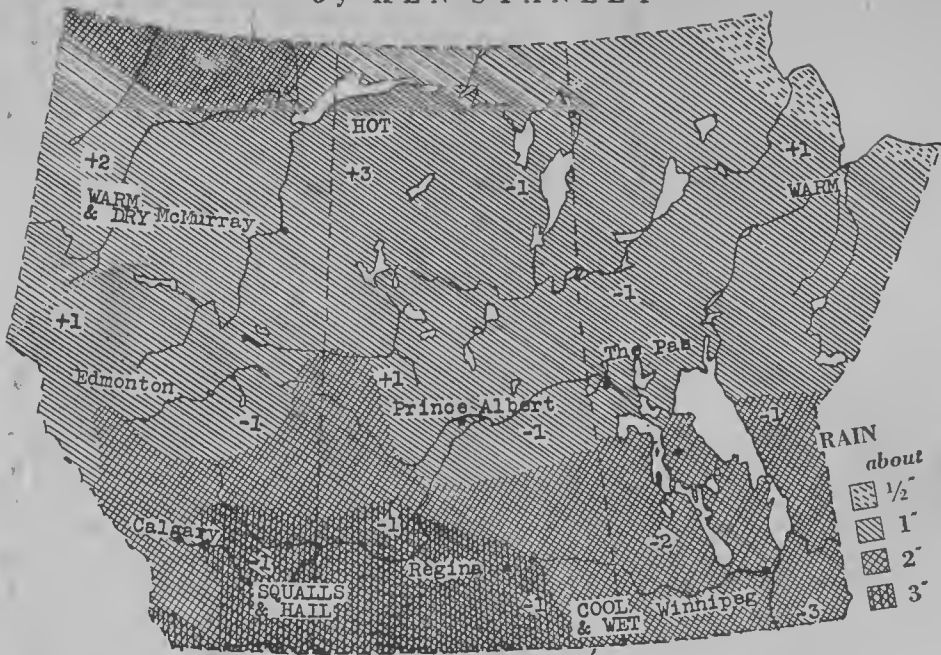
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# BIGGER... in Power... Performance... Economy



# July-August Weathercast

by KEN STANLEY



## Weathercast Period—July 16 to August 15

**Prairie Provinces.** Chinook winds pitted against unusually cool outbreaks of polar air will determine the weather of western Canada this month. In northern Alberta, the down-canyon winds will predominate, resulting in hot, dry sunny days. On the prairies, however, cool damp north and northwest breezes from the Keewatin and MacKenzie Districts, strongest about the 18th, 22nd, 30th of July, and 7th of August, will bring thick, low clouds and will drop daytime thermometer readings. Because of the moist air, fogs at daybreak will be frequent. Lowest temperatures, near freezing in higher Albertan valleys, are due on clear mornings during the second week in August. Figures on the forecast map above show how much higher or lower than average will be the monthly temperatures in your area.

Contrasting with dry weather in central and northern Alberta, the rest of the prairie country will receive ample rainfall. Scattered thunderstorms and showers will occur almost daily.

**Manitoba.** Showers will fall almost every afternoon and evening down the Qu'Appelle and Souris River drainage basin. As over the rest of the prairies, sunshine will be scant, temperatures for the most part mild. A major storm at the beginning of this forecast period will end two days later with strong north to northwest winds. Good rains will also begin with July's third week, soaking the province through to about the 25th, with warm weather showers continuing after that in the southwestern districts. Hottest days of July will come at the close of the month and will be accompanied by thunderstorms and squalls. Another warm spell beginning in the middle of August's first week will bring on a new storm, featuring a northerly blow on the 7th, a change to low, overcast cloudiness, cooler, more continuous rain and drizzle. This bad weather, ending two days later, will be the turning point to an extended stretch of cooler summer weather. Main storms and shower dates are indicated

to be: July 16-17, July 20-25, July 29-August 2, August 5-9.

**Saskatchewan.** Rainy, mild days starting about the 16th will end in strong northwest winds at the beginning of the fourth week. Backing to west, these winds will then bring a pair of fine, dry chinook days. General rains are scheduled to return the 24th, 25th, and again the 29th to the 31st with higher temperatures. Cool northerly winds will end the hot spell about the 7th, in the middle of a storm period extending from the 5th to the 9th. Besides the storm-period days mentioned above, other afternoons and evenings will be cloudier than usual; scattered light showers will occur almost daily in the province. Thunder showers will be reported on about half the days. During the storm periods themselves, hail and heavy rainsqualls will sweep down the South Saskatchewan basin into the Weyburn District more often than normal, even for summer months. Such squalls may cross the province at forty or more miles per hour. Totals of monthly moisture for Saskatchewan will range from heavy in the southern border districts, to less than ordinary for the season in areas north of the Quill Lakes and east of Prince Albert.

**Alberta.** After prolonged dryness in late July, the Peace River country may expect average rainfall during August. Best amounts will fall north of Hotchkiss, heaviest downriver toward Lake Athabasca. Southeast of Lesser Slave Lake, precipitation will increase to satisfactory amounts near Battle River. Below the Red Deer, especially in lower valleys where rains of July's last week will be good, monthly totals will add up to well above normal. Quite severe hail storms and locally heavy rain squalls must be expected between Edmonton and Medicine Hat. Principal bad weather periods will occur about July 18-21, 25-28, August 5-9 and 13. Highest temperatures will be registered during the closing days of July and late in the first week of August.

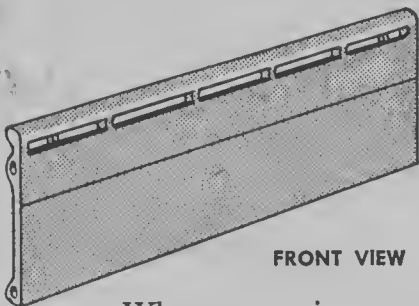
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# International Farm Conference At Rome

*A report of the Sixth General Assembly of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers*

by JOHN ANDERSON

**A**N air of urgency attended the Sixth General Assembly of the International Federation of Agriculture held in Rome, June 5-13. The more than 200 delegates and observers from 30 different countries were warned repeatedly, by individual speakers, of a need for continued efforts to put into practice, particularly on the international scale, the principles of co-operation for which the I.F.A.P. stands. The importance of the farmer in world economic affairs, his need for expanding markets and stable prices and the importance of improving conditions in backward areas, were repeatedly stressed. The Federation's approval of international commodity agreements, such as the International Wheat Agreement, and of wise financial assistance where necessary to improve world economic conditions, was reaffirmed. A warning was also given of the dangers to world peace and general well-being that would be caused by a resurgence of economic nationalism on the part of individual countries.

At the opening of the meeting, the main task confronting agricultural producers was dramatically underlined by Norris E. Dodd, director-general of the Food and Agriculture Organization, who pointed out that growth in agricultural production is not keeping pace with the natural increase in world population. "When you sat down to breakfast this morning," Mr. Dodd told the Assembly, "70,000 more people sat down with you today than yesterday morning, and the cold, hard fact is that there are not being produced 70,000 more cups of milk, or rolls of bread, or bowls of rice, to feed them with."

Pierre Martin of France, president of I.F.A.P., linked the problems of under-consumption with the lack of a balance of international trade; and he warned that a mere removing of restrictions on trade could worsen the position of the farmer, who might find his markets ruined, as a result of the increases in production he had been urged to make. It was also M. Martin who spoke of the dangers of a return to economic nationalism, and of the tendency of nations not to live up to the principles of constructive co-operation they had endorsed. "It looks as though governments have gradually been discouraged by the enormity of the task facing them, and as though they have now abandoned the ideals of constructive co-operation, which were so excellently defined at the time of the foundation of the United Nations, and of its special agencies, and particularly at the Hot Springs conference."

**I**T was in this atmosphere of urgency and purpose that the delegates who, it was claimed, represented a total of approximately 20 million farm families, settled down to discuss, over the nine-day period, specific problems confronting world agriculture and the policy I.F.A.P. was to adopt in regard to these problems.

Canada was represented by H. H. Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agricul-

ture (C.F.A.); W. J. Ball, president of the S.F.A.; C. A. Milligan, president of the O.F.A., and K. Betzner, vice-president of the O.F.A. The Canadian delegation played a particularly outstanding part in the work of the policy-planning committee.

As a basis for the planning of policy, comprehensive commodity reports on wheat, sugar, cotton, dairy products, eggs, feedstuffs, fibres and jute, were placed before the committee; and from these the world's needs and producers' interests were widely discussed. Out of all the discussions one

trade and increase marketing possibilities, was emphasized by many delegates.

With a policy statement on the need for a growing market, there was also expressed the desire for action to bring about a progressive reduction of restrictions to international trade in the way of high import tariffs and other barriers. Import tariffs were cited by delegates from European countries, as a leading cause of Europe's inability to earn dollars. On the other hand, while agreeing in principle with the desirability of generally freer trading, the U.S. delegates maintained that European countries could improve their present dollar position by greater production and by closer attention to the particular requirements of the American market.

**F**ROM general principles the delegates went on to discuss practical measures that I.F.A.P. might support, to improve the existing situation. Here again, after considerable discussion, there proved to be a wide area of agreement between the representatives of both the importing and the exporting nations.

It was not surprising that the new International Wheat Agreement loomed large over part of the discussions; and the observations and questions of a number of delegates showed the existence of widespread concern and some bewilderment as to the U.K.'s actions regarding the Agreement. Delegates from all countries declared their belief in the desirability of international commodity agreements, and in the need for such agreements in bringing about more stable prices, and ensuring, not only steady markets, but also expanded production of the commodities involved. The advantages, it was agreed, would be shared by both the producer and the consumer countries.

A recommendation that was adopted by the policy planners called for the establishment of an international authority to initiate and stimulate consultation on the subject of commodity agreements. This recommendation was proposed by the Canadian delegation. The international authority envisaged by the recommendation would operate under either F.A.O., or the United Nations. It would be responsible for examining the possibilities for commodity agreements and for endeavoring to stimulate action by individual countries, toward the establishing of such agreements.

Speaking of the general advantages of commodity agreements, after the committee discussions, Mr. Hannam, the leader of the Canadian delegation, said that agreements were particularly important to Canada, in view of Canada's greater dependence on world markets for the disposal of its produce. Agreements protected domestic farmers from the dangers of foreign dumping in times of surpluses and offered advantages to both producer and consumer countries. "With international agreements," he said, "consumer" (Please turn to page 30)



Sir James Turner, president, National Farmers' Union of England and Wales, visits the Canadian delegation during the I.F.A.P. Conference at Rome last month. Seated are (left to right): K. Betzner, Ontario; H. H. Hannam, president, C.F.A.; W. J. Ball, Sask.; and Clarence Milligan, Ontario.

fact stood out clearly. That was that in spite of the number of different countries represented, there was a remarkable unanimity of thought, on the part of both exporting and importing countries, as to what would best serve the interests of consumers and producers throughout the world.

It was generally agreed that agricultural prosperity and over-all economic prosperity go hand in hand, and that in fact, over-all prosperity in the long run is dependent on agriculture. Industrial production, delegates asserted, can best be increased by a prior increase in the purchasing power of agricultural producers, which will provide a larger market for the products industry has to offer. The purchasing power of agriculturists in some parts of the world is notoriously low; and the need for favorable conditions for capital investment, and the greater freedom of capital movement to promote



Pierre Martin (France), I.F.A.P. president, opens the Assembly. Left is Allan B. Kline, new president and president, American Farm Bureau Federation; next to him, Norris E. Dodd, director-general, F.A.O. Secretary-general of I.F.A.P. is Roger Savary (right of Martin).





Illustrated by Robert Reck

"I have given the boy his wheat, Mother," he said to his wife. "It is time."

Mrs. Carlson was a short woman, with strong arms and a full bosom. Her face held all the kindness of the human race and all of the understanding. Grey wisps of hair, that once had been the color of ripe straw, stood out about her worn features. Her eyes lighted up and she came over to him and laid a quick hand on his arm.

"I'm glad, Carl," she said. "I was afraid that you would wait until next year."

"Was it that important, Mother?" he asked, his eyes questioning.

"Yes," she said moving away. He saw the tears start. He followed her and put his arms around her. He patted her back as she broke into uncontrolled sobs.

"We are now old," he said. "We can't expect our son to remain a baby. He is grown up."

She raised her face and her crying stopped. She smiled at him through the tears.

"Sometimes you are very blind, Carl," she said. "The boy needs his wheat this year. It will make him feel that he is a man. That is important now."

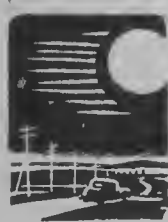
He was puzzled. He kissed her lightly and turned away, not wanting her to see that he was puzzled. She is a woman, he thought, and she has always been beyond me with her thoughts. She is happy concerning the giving of the wheat, yet she cries.

THE sun came out and the ground steamed. Carlson went out to the fields and took the earth in his hand. When he squeezed it into a ball and dropped it, it broke into many fine pieces. Satisfied, he called his son. The two men wasted no motions.

They hooked up the plows and the furrows began to turn in the long field. They were jagged at first, as the moldboards scoured. Then they lay smooth,

Benny was shaving. Carlson's voice was kindly: "Check the gasoline in the car before you use it tonight."

## The Time of the Planting



IT was a chilly spring day. The snow was gone and the meadowlarks had returned from the south. The time for the planting of the wheat was at hand. Benny was treating the golden grain for smut. It was the very choicest wheat of last season's crop.

He picked up a handful of the seed. He looked down at it and his grey eyes were thoughtful. Each kernel of it would swell with the fertility of the earth. It would shoot forth its slim, green blade. During the long spring and the short summer it would grow. Its boot would form and the fecund head would burst from it. Each seed would produce a small handful of its kind. It was a good and a wonderful thing. As he stood looking at the handful of seed he thought of Hilda Yenne. He was still thinking about her when the shadow of his father fell across the floor.

Carl Carlson looked at the pile of wheat on the granary floor. He was a tall, angular man. His eyes were pale blue and there was a slight silvering in his hair. He needed a haircut, as he always did. It had seemed to Benny that his shoulders had become more rounded and stooped of late. The man bent over and took a handful of the seed in his hand and felt of it carefully.

"It is good," he said. "Cover it well with quilts. We want no smut in our fields."

Carl watched his son work for a moment. Then he said, "You will be 20 come September. That is the month of harvest. The ten acres beyond the garden will be yours this year. It is time."

He turned and walked away and Benny looked after him. A great gladness swelled up inside him. His heart sang with it. It was a rule in the Carlson

*The gift of the wheat and ten acres had been his father's way of telling him that he was a man now, with all a man's strength and courage, with a man's right to choose his girl and court her. Benny thought of that as he faced the challenge of the huge and angry John Taber*

by FRANCIS H. AMES

family that each son would receive his own ten acres of the planting when he reached 20. He hadn't expected the gift of wheat until the following year. Carl, his oldest brother, had harvested his four times. Hobart had reaped his only twice. Then they had gone away. They would not return. He was now the only son.

CARL CARLSON went slowly toward the house, his mind going to his lost sons. Carl, with the grave eyes. Hobart, the laughing one—he would have made a good farmer. Their graves were in a foreign land. They would never come back. Yes, he thought, it is fitting that Benny should have his acres this year. He will be 20 by harvest time. Nothing must happen to him—he is the last of our line. He went up to the house and the screen door creaked as he entered.

black and fertile. Carlson looked back behind his plow. Was there ever such land as this, he thought. This prairie sod, this land of the Sioux and the buffalo, this land that was his. Such land must always go from the father to the son, and to the son's sons after him. Benny was the only one that had been left to him.

The disk followed the plow, and the drag the disk. Benny worked back and forth across the fields until they lay like brown velvet on the range. Then the grain was poured in the drill and Carl Carlson drove it. No hand but his could care for the seeding. Benny moved over to the ten acres. When the seeding in the big field was completed his acres would be ready.

The seed was in the ground. The planting was done. In the days when Carl Jr. and Hobart had been there it had been a time for rejoicing. It was Saturday night. The Carlsons sat about the supper table under the dim light of the kerosene lamp. Carlson ate with his thoughts on his plate. His wife moved between table and stove, waiting on them. They were strong and good men. They were good farmers. They planted a crop, cared for it, harvested it, and, in so doing, proved their worth. She looked at her son. She could see the swelling of the great muscles of his arms. His beard, she thought, is growing heavy, like his father's.

"Your clothes, Benny," she said, "are pressed. I laid them on the bed, ready for you."

(Please turn to page 40)





# No Need For Costly Barns

**B**EFORE building that barn this summer, look closely at the actual cost. Not just the number of dollars and cents it will take to get it up, but how much extra cost it will mean for each cow in your herd. How much will each cow have to pay every year, and for how many years, before the barn is fully paid for? Ask yourself if the cattle really need a barn over their heads or whether a rough shelter or a straw stack will not protect them from the wind and storm of winter just as well.

It isn't hard to spend a few thousand dollars on a barn and even then, not have a very fancy structure. Take, for example, a barn that costs \$4,000 and houses 20 beef cows and the young stock that go with them. The barn might last for 40 years, which would mean a depreciation cost of \$100 every year during that time. Say the interest which could be earned with that money, if it were invested in something else, is five per cent, which would be a modest rate in 1953. That would mean another \$200 expense every year for 40 years. It means a total barn cost of \$300 every year for 20 cows. Fifteen dollars a year charge against every cow in the barn for 40 years is a big expense for most beef herds.

The price of beef dropped from about \$30 a hundred pounds to less than \$20 during the past 18 months and many stockmen have vivid recollections of times not long gone by when steers sold for \$20 apiece or less, which is a big difference again from that much per hundredweight.

Luckily for cattlemen, when margins are small and costs have to be kept low, cattle do not ask for fancy accommodation. Since the early prairie settlers put up those big hip-roofed barns several decades ago to protect their cattle from the fury of western winters their cattle have been telling them continuously, "We don't want these barns."

*Don't burden your livestock business with costly buildings. It is comfort, not style, that pays off*

by DON BARON

Cattle don't mind the cold nearly as much as was first imagined. In fact a dense coat of hair turns back the cold as long as the animals can build up a body heat with plenty of good roughage feed. They want shelter from cutting winds and a place free of drafts with a dry place to lie. But they don't mind the cold. In fact, they often thrive better in the cool freshness of open shelters than in warm, airtight stables.

Many western cattle run outside all winter long, sheltered only by a windbreak made of poles or straw. With little money invested in buildings a bigger share of the cash receipts is left in the profit column, and that is the goal of beef production.

With this in mind, if you still want a barn, remember who is going to have to work in it. You might be able to save the cost of a hired man in the winter, by building a barn or shed that is easy to work in, with the hay stored right beside the cows, or in a convenient spot for feeding. Plan one that doesn't have to be cleaned out every day, and that is easy to bed and keep dry.

**A**RCHIE LONDROY at Rapid City, Man., is one beef man who planned his buildings to keep costs down and labor low. He has a purebred Hereford herd, and when he faced a remodeling job on his old hip-roofed barn, he came up with more comfortable quarters for his herd and a stable that was a lot easier to work in. His herd is still in a barn, but when he is away for the day and comes

home late, he doesn't find them bawling from hunger, or up to their knees in mud, from unbedded stalls.

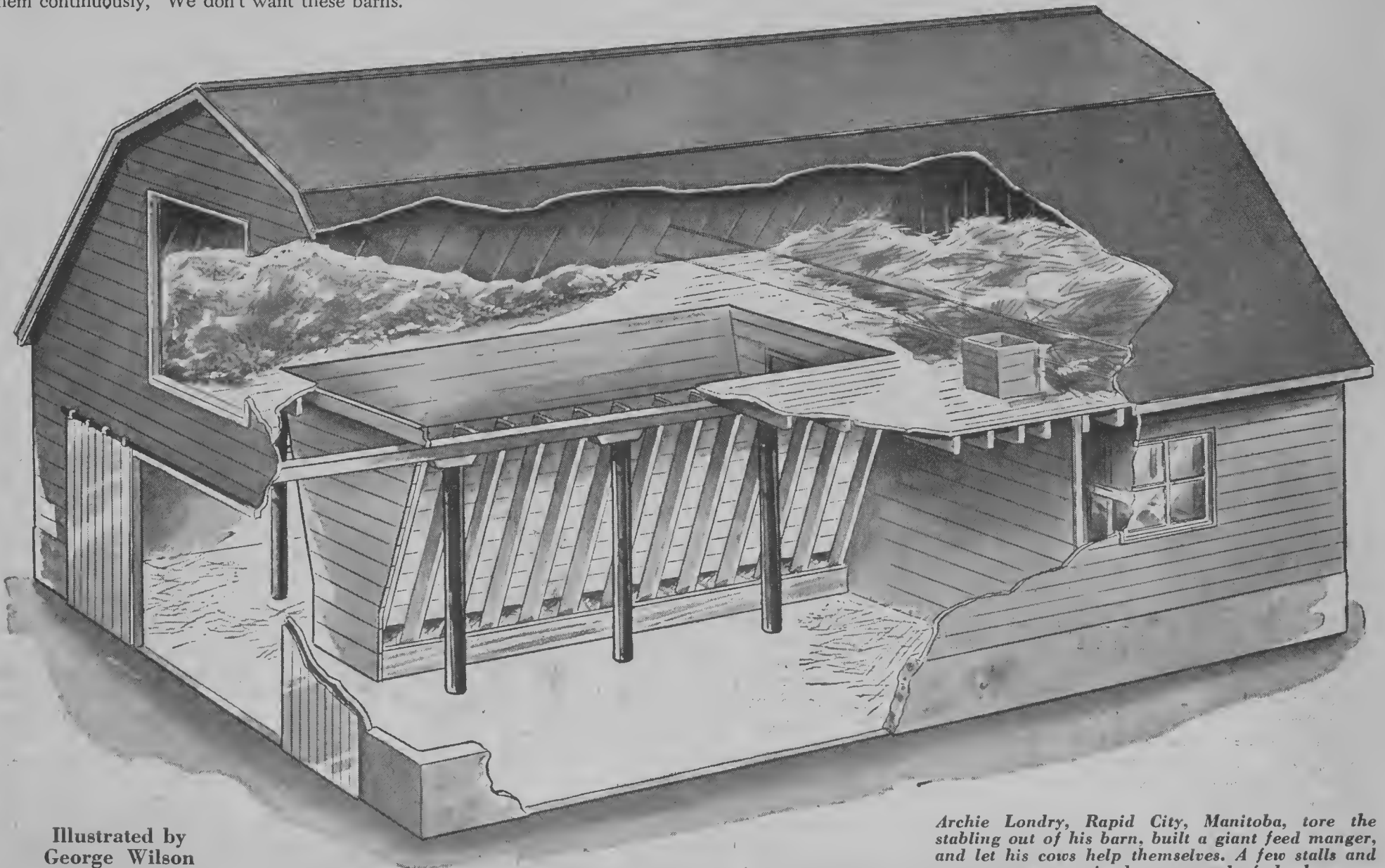
He planned the remodeling and did most of the work himself, using second-hand lumber from an old stock yard, to keep expenses low. Here is what he did:

The old stable, with chain ties and a low ceiling, had already given several decades of service, before Archie moved to the farm in 1946. He ripped the stabling right out of the barn in the spring of 1952 and used jacks to raise the building off the crumbling foundation. Then he built a new foundation, set the barn back down on it, and with no drainage problem to hinder him, dug the floor of the barn down deeper to allow greater clearance for the cattle. This transformed the stable into an open shed with a ceiling about 11 feet off the ground.

Then he came to the original part of his plan. He visualized a stable with no hay to pull and tug on cold winter days, one in which chores would take only a short time in spite of a growing herd. He cut a 12 by 24-foot hole in the floor of the loft, leading down into the center of the stable. Then he framed a giant hopper much like a grain hopper, building the sloping walls nearly to the ground. He left manger space at the bottom of this hopper through which the cows could eat, and he completed the structure in time for haying in the spring of 1952.

Chopped hay blown into the loft, filled the hopper and loft that spring. Last winter, as the cows ate from the manger, their constant pulling and chewing worked the hay down the smooth inclined sides and half the winter was over before a forkful of hay needed to be

(Please turn to page 36)



Illustrated by  
George Wilson

Archie Londroy, Rapid City, Manitoba, tore the stabling out of his barn, built a giant feed manger, and let his cows help themselves. A few stalls and pens were retained at one end of the barn.



# He Can Show Them

*Dairyman Frank Rudd obtains phenomenal crop yields to support 70 milking cows on 37 acres*

*by C. V. FAULKNER*

**L**OSS of our topsoil means spread of the waste lands. It is estimated the Sahara Desert is moving southward at a mean rate of over half a mile per year, yet the Northern Sahara was once considered the granary of ancient Rome. In those times the Congo forest reached almost to Khartoum, from which it is now separated by some 1,500 miles of desert.

On the North American continent we make a much more efficient job of it than that; this is a land of mass production—and of mass destruction. Depletion of our soils has been aided by the fact that here we have had huge reserves of good virgin land, where “burned out” farmers could make a fresh start, when their own land became exhausted.

The new deserts of Canada and the United States are called dustbowls. In California, the largest of them has advanced as much as 40 miles in one year, destroying about 2,500 productive farms.

A good farmer maintains the productive capacity of his soil by restoring the vital plant foods he has removed by cropping. In the agricultural parlance of the Old Testament this is called being a “good husbandman.” It is also being a good businessman, because good husbandry pays off in hard cash. Although more concerned with earning a living than with the problems of posterity, most farmers need only to be shown that good husbandry and good living go hand-in-hand. One man who can show them is dairyman Frank Rudd of Victoria, B.C., who adds even more to his land than the crops remove, and finds that his investment is returned with interest.

**O**N Burnside Road, about three miles from the city center, the Rudd place has been almost completely surrounded by suburban dwellings. The 37 intensively cropped acres of this farm carry 70 milking cows, plus young stock, and for the past few years there has been hay left over each spring.

“We could carry 80 cows here if we wanted to,” Frank maintains. A look at some of his yields will show that this is no idle statement.

Rudd is an old-time dairyman of the mangel-growing school, and obtains up to 90 tons of mangels to the acre. One specimen, a 43-pound monster was featured not long ago in the daily press. Frank has bettered the all-time Canadian mangel-growing record of the late Fred Barnes. His results with other crops are just as spectacular. In an area where alfalfa yields are generally poor he obtains up to 15 tons per acre in three cuttings: two of these go for hay and one for silage. The true gauge of Rudd’s good husbandmanship is that his yields are increasing all the time.



*Above: The Rudd farm in suburban setting, where the Victoria city bus line follows the boundary of the farm.*

*Left: Muriel Rudd, ready to start out for the creamery with the day's milking.*

“My farm isn’t exactly going downhill,” he admitted. “I’ve been producing under the three-crop system for many years, and last year had the biggest crop of all.”

Frank Rudd was born in California 67 years ago, and came to live on the B.C. coast at the age of three. He was raised on a farm on Galiano Island where the warm waters of Georgia Gulf induce a climate not unlike his native State. In his early ‘teens Frank was apprenticed to a foundry in nearby Victoria, and remained with that trade for 18 years. Fed up with city life by that time, he moved with his wife and three children to the Burnside Road farm, and returned quite happily to the environment of his boyhood. In the 25 years they’ve been on the place the Rudds have seen the city spread out across the rolling countryside to engulf them, until today their farm is a lush, green island in a sea of brightly painted homes.

This has brought its own particular problems. A short time ago a group of Rudd’s neighbors objected to the smell of the liquid manure he sprays on his land. However, Frank was able to convince them that maintaining fertility of the soil benefited everyone in the long run. A good neighbor, as well as a good farmer, he compromised by diluting the liquid to half strength by adding 50 per cent water; there have been no complaints since.

“As a matter of fact, the resulting publicity did a lot of good,” Frank smiled. “Several farmers who had been letting their barn liquids run down the drain came over here to have a look at my set-up.”

Ironically enough, if he had been a “soil miner” there would have been no protests at all.

**R**UDD’S intensive cropping program calls for heavy applications of liquid manure, solid manure, and commercial fertilizer, plus adequate irrigation water.

“You’ve got to return to the soil what you take out of it,” he said, “and more if you can. I’ve never

sold a load of manure in my life and never intend to.”

Farm waste will yield a far greater cash return if spread back on the land, instead of being sold off the farm. About one-third of the value of grasses and green legumes that are fed to stock is found in the manure—good clover and alfalfa hay return about two-fifths. On the average, a dairy cow will, in one year, produce 13 tons of wet manure per 1,000 pounds of live weight. Measured in terms of increased crop yields, each cow’s

annual contribution to soil fertility goes a long way toward paying its keep.

Frank Rudd attributes his spectacular mangel yields to applying as much as 100 tons of solid manure and 1,000 pounds of chemical fertilizer per acre to his three-acre mangel field, coupled with heavy soakings of liquid manure and water. Forage crops in particular, show remarkable response to treatment with liquid manure. This drains from the barn to a 45,000 gallon tank, from where it is piped and distributed by sprinkler over the land; and the very compactness of the farm contributes to the economy of this method, over the tractor-drawn tank sprayers in general use. Frank’s success with alfalfa is a result of liming the soil heavily, inoculating the seed, and sowing at the rate of 22 pounds per acre.

Rudd believes himself to be one of the first farmers in Canada to use sprinkler irrigation. Sixteen years ago he laid a network of water pipes all over his acreage, and sprinkled from 300 feet of garden hose. Today he has a system of galvanized steel pipes which feed water to a series of modern sprinkler nozzles; at the time he had this installed, portable aluminum piping had not come into vogue. Water for the system comes from municipal mains at a fee of \$1,600 a year; and in Frank’s opinion this water is worth every cent he pays for it.

Rudd cows never know the delights of roaming in open pastures. Their days are spent in a well-lighted 48 by 144-foot loafing shed, where they can move about freely in any weather. During the growing season, grass is cut and hauled to them in a feedlot. In addition, they get all they can eat of a 50-50 mixture of mangels and silage, plus alfalfa hay, wet brewer’s grains, and a mixed grain ration. On the average, they consume about 400 tons of silage a year, and in return for this, produce a ton of milk a day.

(Please turn to page 54)



# Loafing Acres Pay No Dividends

**A**GRICULTURE is not yet agreed on a single term which can be applied to the preservation, the development and the use of land to its maximum profitable capacity. The popular term is "soil conservation," but this term is not broad enough. It means merely to keep from harm, or from being used up. It is a passive term, whereas what is needed is something positive, which will imply not mere maintenance, but build-up.

In the search for a better expression, a more direct and, to some extent, a more practical term is "better land use." Land, apart from people, has no economic value. The measure of its use or utility, therefore, depends on the quantity and quality of the crops and livestock which an acre of it can produce, under efficient management. Efficient land use means, therefore, not only soil conservation but maximum, profitable production, considering not only the amount produced in a single year, but the amount which will maintain the land at its present or improved value.

Times change, and circumstances have a habit of changing with the times. Canada's population is now three times what it was when settlers poured over the prairies seeking virgin land and were willing to bet the government \$10 that they could stay on it for three years. Except for fairly limited areas, straight wheat or grain growing is a questionable type of permanent agriculture. Livestock are nearly always associated with permanence, because they are so closely related to soil fertility and tilth. This is truer as rainfall increases above the minimum required for wheat production.

Saskatchewan produces around 60 per cent of Canada's total wheat crop. Thus, her economy is precariously based on a single crop. The government of the province recognizes this, as do the people, more particularly the 112,000 farm families whose standards of living, for the most part, depend on the balance between rainfall and yield per acre. Encouragement has, therefore, been given to an increase in the acreage devoted to forage crops, in the certain knowledge that livestock, soil fertility and a balanced agricultural economy, depend largely on abundant current feed supplies and adequate reserves of fodder.

Since 1948, a program of "earned assistance" payments for projects sponsored by municipalities has been followed. Under this policy, the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture meets, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, a share of the costs of projects of various kinds tending to improve the standards of land use. During this period more than a thousand projects, costing a total of \$468,000 up to January 31 this year, have been approved. These include projects for fodder production, community pastures, water development, clearing and breaking, tree planting, persistent perennial weed control, roadside tree planting, roadside grass seeding, warble fly control and dehorning, high-pressure sprayers and equipment, and drainage. In addition, aid is also available for the survey and study of projects, including surveys of land use in rural municipalities and local improvement districts, to provide "up-to-date" data on land utilization, as a basis for planning agricultural improvement projects and programs." For this purpose, up to \$1,000 is available for each agricultural representative district in the province, but not more than \$300 in any one rural municipality or local improvement district.

**D**URING the last five years, approximately 60 land use surveys have been made in as many R.M.'s. These are made under the auspices of the local Agricultural Improvement and Conservation Committee for the municipality concerned, and the stamp of final approval is given by the District Agricultural Improvement and Conservation Board,

*Sixty Saskatchewan municipalities have organized a search for acres that are not doing their duty, and many surprising facts have emerged from land use surveys*

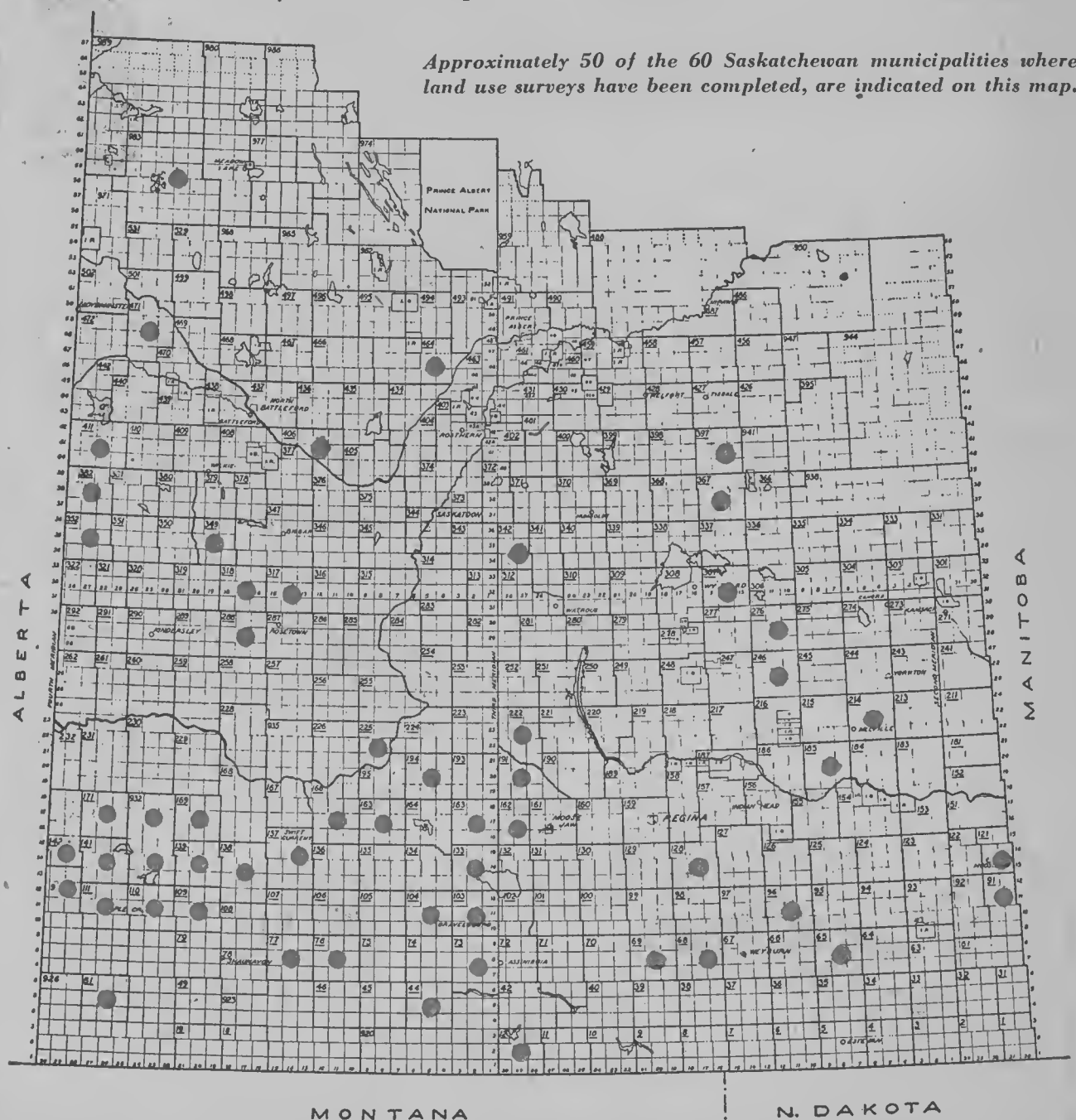
by H. S. FRY

which represents the whole of the agricultural representative district concerned. Much of the initial gathering of available statistical information is done by the agricultural representative. Other information as to land use on each farm in the municipality must be gathered by farm visits. The final preparation of the Land Use Survey Report involves the selection of dominant, or important, problems, and the making of such recommendations with respect to them, as the committee may decide. The report is then made available to the ratepayers of the municipality or L.I.D.; and upon them and the Municipal Council, acting through the Committee, rests the responsibility for what may be done in the future to increase land use efficiency in the area.

There is nothing very striking about the fact that John or Richard Doe may be relatively inefficient farmers. It is a different matter, however, to find, in a municipality in the east-central portion of the province where grain growing is the major activity, that 62 per cent of the farms are a half-section in size or less. In this day of larger farms and mechanization this can only mean that, on the whole, the relationship between the land and the people of the municipality is unsatisfactory. The possibility that these smaller farms may have other enterprises

than wheat, to compensate for their lack of size, is pretty well squelched by the fact that whereas about 2,800 acres of land in the municipality are used as farmyards, the total amount of tame grass, for both hay or permanent pasture in the municipality, is little more than 1,700 acres out of a total cultivated acreage of 137,000. In this R.M. more than three-quarters of the land is owned and two-thirds is cultivated; nearly seven per cent is waste land, 8.5 per cent is idle; and on 242 farms in the municipality the available native pasture is overgrazed, as indicated by weeds and brush. In this municipality, too, there is an average of 14 head of cattle, 60 head of poultry; 2.9 horses, and an insignificant number of sheep, per farm. There is little wonder then that the Committee posed, as one problem, the fact that 70 per cent of the fodder in the municipality is straw, that there is virtually no fodder reserve, and that overgrazed pastures are characteristic of nearly half the total farms in the R.M. The Committee recommended that some of the old cultivated area be sown to grass-legume mixtures, and the overgrazed pastures be broken up and seeded to such mixtures. Each livestock owner, they reported, should aim at two years' fodder supply in the hay yard. A warning against overcapitalization was issued to the smaller farm units, along with the suggestion that they should build up a secondary enterprise to supplement farm income.

**A**NOTHER municipality (south-central part of the province), consisting of 203,161 acres, of which 174,261 acres were utilized by 752 people, on 203 occupied farms, (Please turn to page 37)



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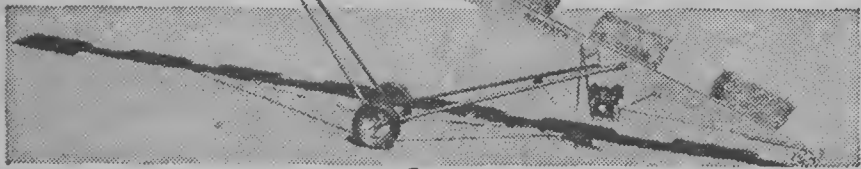
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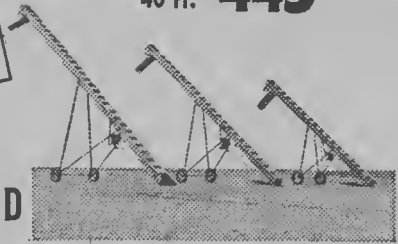
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# Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

OTTAWA is a somewhat peculiar place to be in during a general election campaign. To begin with, the capital is a cross-section of Canada, because people have gravitated here from every part of the country, and retain for the most part, their prairie or maritime outlook or whatever else it may happen to be. This should make it very helpful in trying to measure the national pulse in election time, and so it is, up to a point. But there is a time element to take into account.

In all cases, it is best to ascertain what the political bias is, and if it is sufficiently strong to make an objective appraisal unlikely. The inhabitants of Ottawa for the most part are quite politically conscious, and so, it seems, are many of the visitors, but in both groups there is quite a large proportion, which apparently tries to report the state of local opinion in a given area, even if that supposed opinion is not in tune with the informant's own ideas of what should happen.

At any rate, I don't pretend to offer a Canadian consensus in the following: Impressions gathered from an assortment of people hereabouts add up to a fairly definite feeling that the government will be returned for its fifth straight term, with a majority somewhere in between the narrow squeak of 1945 and the colossal sweep of 1949.

The interesting point about this is that, barring die-hard partisans, my own rough-and-ready survey of public opinion indicates more resignation than enthusiasm about the supposed outcome. The assumption is that a government in times of prosperity is likely to be returned, and that this particular administration enjoys a particular advantage in its relation to the province of Quebec.

In 1949, Mr. St. Laurent captured a majority of seats in every section of Canada, his own province being practically solid. I happen to have covered the greater part of his nationwide campaign in that year, and the result was never in much doubt. It was a prodigious personal effort. So much were his countrymen—no matter what their racial origin—impressed with his obvious statcraft blended with good-humored friendliness, that they went for him in a big way. Some pretty poor specimens rode to Ottawa on the St. Laurent bandwagon, along with men of talent. A number of the former class—except in ridings where for historic reasons the outcome is taken as a matter of course—may be expected to come to grief this time; otherwise, Mr. St. Laurent's continued appeal, plus continued prosperity, give his cohorts an undoubted advantage in next month's national test. These advantages seem at the moment to outweigh fretfulness over the scale of taxes and the fairly widespread feeling that it is not good for democracy that even a good administration should stay in power for more than 20 years.

One feature that this politically-conscious community finds intriguing is the apparent drift toward a two-party system once more in provincial



affairs across Canada, although the same trend hasn't shown itself as yet in the federal arena. But in most of the provinces strange new patterns are being woven. In the maritimes, of course, political life goes on in its traditional uncomplicated way, a simple matter of Grits versus Tories. Newfoundland is like the other three Atlantic provinces in this respect. In central Canada, Ontario now shows signs of settling back into its Conservative versus Liberal ways, although CCF strength is too recent to be overlooked.

But everywhere else, the only common denominator is a more or less two-party alignment in each of the legislatures. In Quebec, the contest is definitely between Union Nationale and Liberals. In Manitoba, party groupings have been shifting for 30 years, but always with a hard core of Progressives as the dominant factor; today, the opposing factions are Liberal-Progressive (the hyphen is still significant) and Conservative. In Saskatchewan, the division is strictly CCF and Liberal. In Alberta, it is Social Credit and mainly Liberal. The interesting developments in British Columbia seem to indicate a Social Credit and CCF arrangement for the time being.

What Ottawa observers would like very much to know is whether the two-party system now so apparent in the provinces is to become manifest once more in the national field. At this distance, it still seems unlikely, for few people seriously believe that either Social Credit or CCF will suddenly collapse in areas where they have become well entrenched provincially. Conservative by-election successes in the West are generally discounted, on the ground that the same voters who aim to strengthen the main opposition group may not necessarily want to see that same party take office.

There is nothing parochial about the attention being paid here to the campaign developing in Ontario. For this is felt to be the key province, if Conservatives hope to make any kind of a comeback. Nowhere else in Canada can they expect to do much more than make modest gains. If they fail again in Ontario, Mr. St. Laurent is surely home-free. V



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## B.C. Letter

*Election echoes — economic uncertainties — Hampbar poultry—table grape growing—seed industry flourishing*

by CHAS. L. SHAW

**B**RITISH COLUMBIA is apparently facing several years of continued Social Credit rule as a result of the June election, with the C.C.F. maintaining the official opposition.

It also seems reasonable to suggest that Social Credit government will succeed in British Columbia, so long as it follows conventional business procedure and is not tempted into other by-paths by its dreamers, of whom there are admittedly a few, even in British Columbia. The strength of the government lies in men such as Einar Gunderson, the finance minister, and Robert Bonner, the attorney-general—yes, and Bennett himself—none of whom have shown much interest in true Social Credit theories and probably have no desire or inclination to adopt them.

There is evidence in the election that the C.C.F. continues to be a real power in the province and under the leadership of its new chief, Arnold Webster, it should have increasing influence. That influence will probably grow should there be a downturn in economic conditions in British Columbia.

So far, there has been scant sign of such a change, even though some industries have suffered and may suffer still more this year if the bridge between selling prices and costs of production continues to remain at such a precarious point. British Columbia's dependence on foreign markets for its principal products is an old story, and such products can only be sold in competition with world prices. These prices have steadily declined, yet organized labor still agitates for a higher standard, and at this writing the great forest and fishing industries are threatened with a repetition of last year's ruinous stalemates.

The United Kingdom and Commonwealth markets, which were the mainstay so long, are undependable now, and with all the turmoil in Washington over tariffs, British Columbia cannot count too much on continued sales in the United States. The American high tariff advocates may make things very tough for the base metal mines, the sawmills, fruit growers and fish producers of British Columbia during the coming months.

Although the Social Credit government had planned to decontrol milk prices last May, it decided at the eleventh hour to postpone its decision until after the election, and its policy has yet to be determined. The Milk Board recommended decontrol more than a year ago, but this met with considerable opposition and the government was reluctant to have milk prices made a campaign issue. Premier Bennett says that if decontrol, when finally put into effect, is found to be damaging to the dairy industry, it will be dropped.

**G**EORGE ROUTLEDGE of Lulu Island, who was an orchard hand in the Okanagan Valley before the war, has developed a prolific cross between New Hampshire and Barred Plymouth Rocks and appears to have originated a really successful breed—

the Hampbar—resulting from four crosses between the two more familiar breeds of poultry. The cross-breeding to produce a "sex-differentiated" chick was originated in Cambridge University, by Prof. R. C. Punnett, with his Legbars bred from Leghorns and Barred Rocks, in 1929. Routledge has applied the experiment to the other breeds, with distinction. His best Hampbar hen last year produced 246 eggs. However, his success did not come easily, because a few years ago he lost most of his flocks through Newcastle disease and had to rebuild. In addition to egg-laying ability, the Hampbar is easily distinguished as to sex, among day-old chicks, with 90 per cent accuracy.

Routledge is only one of many British Columbia experimenters who have hit pay dirt because of their resourcefulness and determination. Another is E. L. Girard, formerly of France, who has developed one of the first fully successful vineyards on a commercial basis, on the Canadian coast. His six acres of vineyard near Nanaimo, Vancouver Island, produced about 30,000 pounds of fruit last year, or about two-thirds of the entire Island commercial crop. Of course, growing grapes for jam and jelly is nothing new for this part of the world, but Girard's grapes compare with California varieties for ordinary table use. He has given the lie to the popular

**The optimist is as often wrong as the pessimist, but he is far happier.**

conviction that British Columbia's coastal area cannot grow good "eating" grapes. His crop is mainly Niagara and Campbell's Early, the latter a cross between the European wine grape and a North American hybrid, the labrusca, which he recommends for this climate, but he insists that great care must be used in choosing the site. There is no extensive area suitable for grapes, he claims—only a few select spots, with deep, sandy and gravelly soil and no clay, sheltered from sea winds.

Farmers and professional agriculturists are happy that more lime is being used in the soils of the Fraser Valley—about 53,000 tons this year, compared with less than half that amount a decade ago. Most of the lime is quarried on Texada Island in the Gulf of Georgia, delivered by scow and spread on the soil with modern machinery that is economical in operation. Productivity is being increased substantially as a result.

Despite a reduction in prices, British Columbia's seed industry is flourishing and last year production was valued at \$1,393,000, more than \$325,000 over the previous year's record. However, some varieties have shown a slump and the fact that the price of forage seed has declined some 35 per cent is not expected to give much encouragement to growers. The suitability of the west coast's soil and climate for seed culture has been established, however, and the long-term prospects are considered excellent.



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The greatest Ford Truck line of all time offers more new features than ever before to bring top efficiency and economy to modern farm hauling! They're *Driverized* all through . . . with all-new *Driverized* cabs, planned for relaxing comfort after hard work in the fields . . . new shorter turning circle for easier manoeuvring around farm buildings and busy markets . . . larger, improved self-energizing brakes for faster stops . . . comfort-zone ride control . . . and the greatest transmission choice in Ford Truck history! Ford Trucks rate ace-high with economy-minded, efficiency-minded farmers all over Canada!

### ALL-NEW DRIVERIZED FEATURES FOR THE SMOOTHEST HANDLING EASE EVER PERFECTED!

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19% increase in all-round visibility . . . 5-foot wide adjustable seat with built-in shock snubbers . . . all-new insulation and ventilation.

#### SYNCHRO-SILENT TRANSMISSION

Synchro-Silent transmission on all models eliminates double clutching. Automatic Transmission\* and Overdrive\* available on all F-100 models. (\*at extra cost)

#### IMPROVED SELF- ENERGIZING BRAKES

Self-Energizing Single Anchor, Fixed Double Anchor or Cylinder-type brakes (depending on model) give smoother, surer stops with less pedal pressure.

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Ford V-8 engines deliver smooth, lively power and high sustained torque for tough hauls. More power means fewer gear changes.

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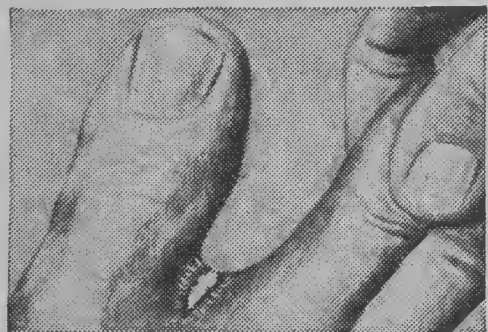


# ATHLETE'S FOOT

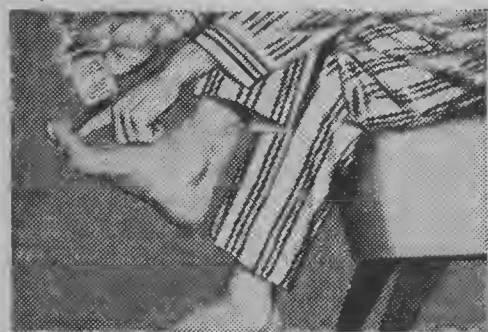
What it is  
How you get it  
How to get relief



**Athlete's Foot** is caused by parasitic micro-organisms. Left untreated, it can burrow under skin tissue, attack nerve endings, lead to disability. Severe case shown here requires doctor's care.



**Raw cracks between your toes** invite Athlete's Foot—especially in summer. When Athlete's Foot fungi infect, skin reddens, itches painfully, flakes off.



**For relief** of Athlete's Foot symptoms, use Absorbine Jr. daily. Cool, soothing Absorbine Jr. kills all the Athlete's Foot fungi it can reach. Promotes healing of skin. To prevent re-infection, boil socks; don't share towels.

**Absorbine Jr.**, original relief for Athlete's Foot, has been proven successful in relieving Athlete's Foot misery in 3 out of 4 cases tested. Available at all drug counters. Buy a bottle today.



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Please send me a free sample bottle of Absorbine Jr.—postpaid.

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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



*The weatherman in June provided an overgenerous supply of water for this Manitoba dugout.*

### Cheese Price Supported

On June 1 the Canada Department of Agriculture announced that the Agricultural Prices Support Board would support Canadian cheddar cheese prices until October 31, 1953, at 30 cents per pound. The government undertook to purchase at the same price from the Ontario Cheese Producers' Marketing Board approximately 5.5 million pounds of cheese carried over from 1952. In supporting the price until October 31, the Prices Support Board will follow its usual practice and will buy, at 30 cents per pound, all first grade cheddar cheese purchased during the months of April to September which remained in possession of the Ontario Board on October 31.

The Ontario Cheese Producers' Marketing Board has again entered into an agreement, under the Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act, to enable the Cheese Board to finance marketing and handling operations by way of guaranteed loans.

On May 1, cheddar cheese in storage amounted to 25 million pounds, approximately the same amount as was in storage on April 1, 1952. Cheese was the only important dairy product, stocks of which were not higher on May 1 of this year, than at the same date last year. Nevertheless, there was little prospect of exports of more than about a million pounds a month, while the amount in storage as at May 1 represented between four and five months' domestic disappearance. Last year the Ontario government guaranteed cheesemakers of that province six cents per pound beyond the federal government guarantee, but early in May it was announced that no minimum price for Ontario cheese would be applicable. On April 30 the Ontario cheese exchanges suspended operations and during the third week in May prospective buyers offered from 24 to 27 cents per pound on the open market for No. 1 and 2 Ontario cheddar. ✓

### High-Level Business Continues

**P**ROSPERITY means higher food sales both in volume and value. Now that the headlong inflationary rise has been stopped it is easier to see what has happened. As farmers both in Canada and the United States

have reason to know, food prices have dropped, but total consumer food purchases continue to increase.

The New York Times recently reported that 1953 food sales in the U.S. are likely to top \$40 billion this year for the first time. Last year independent food stores in the U.S. had a gross increase of 8.1 per cent, and all chain stores, 8.8 per cent.

Consumer credit is also at a high level in Canada: it stands at about \$1.5 billion, and for the United States, a recent Federal Reserve Board estimate was \$25.7 billion.

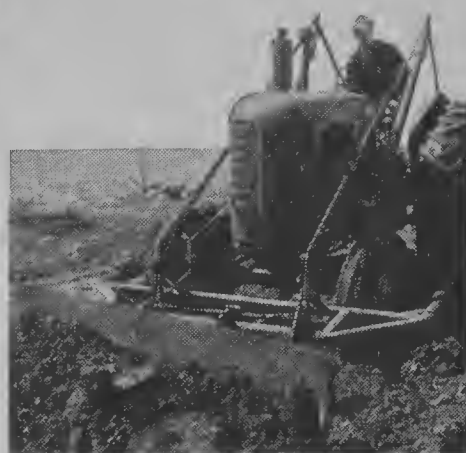
Both the number of employable persons and the number of persons employed remains at a very high level. This is likewise true of such economic indicators as freight car loadings, money in circulation, commercial, industrial and agricultural loans, construction contracts, and personal income.

Gross income of Canadian farmers will probably remain at a fairly high level in 1953, but this will be helped materially by the heavy carryover from 1952 grain crops. Farmers' costs are relatively inflexible, which means that any further declines in prices for farm products are not likely to be matched by declines in farm costs. This might bring lower net farm income for the year. The same factors operate in the United States where farm prices and farm cash receipts will be lower this year than in 1952. This is expected to lead to a drop in net income of about \$1 billion, notwithstanding that under average growing conditions the total volume of farm marketings is expected to approximately equal last year's record volume. ✓

### Co-op Farms In Saskatchewan

The first co-operative farm in Saskatchewan was organized in 1945. In 1952 the total income of 25 co-operative farms in the province was \$718,485, and total assets were \$1,525,533. Equity of the 264 co-op farm members was \$1,136,229.

Ten of the co-op farms are operated by veterans, nine are family co-ops, and the reminder have been developed by established farmers. The majority are located in the north-eastern part of the province; though there are co-op farms at Kyle, Beechy, Willow Bunch and Allan, in other parts of the province. ✓



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940 Station St. Vancouver



# Get It at a Glance

*Some items of interest to farm folk about  
agriculture in Canada and other countries*

The June 1 wheat crop prospects in the United States—the latest available—as estimated by the U.S.D.A. Crop Reporting Board indicated a total wheat crop of 1,132,000,000 bushels, or four per cent more than average. Prospects improved during May and the estimate was for 770 million bushels of winter wheat and 363 million bushels of spring wheat, the latter being the largest on record. ✓

For the first three months of 1953 the 191 active credit unions in Alberta increased their membership by 1,126 to a total of 31,598, or an average of 156. Total assets had increased to \$6,560,401, of which loans in force amounted to \$5,056,560. Share capital amounted to \$5,580,520 and deposit savings, \$587,573. Surplus and reserve were \$326,601. ✓

Canada's vegetable growers, in 1952 planted 190,820 acres, ranging alphabetically from asparagus to tomatoes, and produced crops amounting to 1,714,000,000 pounds. Most important was tomatoes followed by corn, carrots, onions and cabbage in that order. Smallest was asparagus at 5,814,000 pounds. Greatest vegetable province was Ontario with 120,350 acres, followed by Quebec with 37,940 acres, British Columbia 16,490 acres, and the three prairie provinces, a total of 12,140 acres. The latter figure consisted of 4,390 acres in Manitoba and 7,750 acres in Alberta. ✓

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics calculates that 341,522,000 dozen eggs, worth \$134,226,000 were disposed of in Canada last year. Producers used 54.5 million dozen eggs for food, while 9 million dozen were used for hatching, leaving 267.7 million dozen marketed. ✓

The Royal Agricultural Society Show in Britain is said to be the largest agricultural exhibit of its kind in the world. It was held this year at Blackpool in the north of England, July 7-10. Entries were expected to include more than 5,000 of Britain's best farm livestock, including 20 breeds of cattle, 10 breeds of pigs, nearly 30 breeds of sheep, in addition to light and heavy horses. ✓

U.S. farmers own more than 200 factories through their regional co-operatives. These include 20 oil refineries, 62 fertilizer factories and about 75 feed mills. ✓

There are in Sweden some co-operatives whose members are owners of forests. These co-operatives recently decided to construct their own wood-pulp factory, and the site for this factory was recently being sought in southern Sweden. ✓

World wheat exports for the year 1951-52 are estimated at 990 million bushels, an amount greater than in any year since the close of the war. In four out of the five past years, exports were more than 900 million bushels, and the average for the past five-year period was 925 millions. ✓

In Manitoba, 159 credit unions were active at the end of 1952, with a total

membership of 41,277. Loans during the year amounted to \$5,429,539, while 38.9 per cent more was lent than in 1951. Furniture and clothing were responsible or the largest number of loans, followed by consolidation of debts, buildings and improvements, automobiles and trucks, and by loans for hospital, medical and dental purposes. Total loans written off since 1948 were .03 per cent of the total loans granted. Total assets increased 26 per cent over the previous year to \$8,383,197. ✓

In 1952, the total value of all fruits produced in Canada for which estimates are published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was nearly \$38 million, or \$3 million more than in 1951, and the highest since 1948. Apples were the most valuable crop as usual, followed by strawberries and peaches. For the first time since 1949, British Columbia exceeded Ontario in value of fruit production. ✓

Anyone who would like to become more familiar with Canada as it is in 1953, may secure a handy pocket-size manual of 320 pages, containing more than 300 photographs—many of them in color—for 25 cents from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa. Chapters on Canada's external relations, mineral development, agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, as well as on education, scientific research, population and labor will be found in this colorful and informative book. ✓

The oldest of Britain's agricultural shows is the Bath and West Show, held at Bath, England, under the auspices of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society. It dates back to 1780. ✓

A report from the Natural History Museum at Chicago recently intimated that farmers tilled the soil of what is now the United States as long as 4,500 years ago. A cave in New Mexico provided exceptionally well preserved material believed to date back to about 3,000 B.C. Some of the 38,000 cobs of corn found were believed to represent the most primitive and perhaps the oldest ever found. ✓

According to the Farm Credit Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, farmers' financial interest in approximately 10,000 marketing and purchasing associations registered with the Administration, totalled \$1,298,431,000 for the year 1950, or 13.1 per cent more than in 1949. This amount represented 0.9 per cent of the total amount invested in agriculture, as real estate, livestock, equipment, stored crops, cash, U.S. savings bonds and investments in co-operatives. Other U.S. farm equities in co-operatives for credit, electricity, irrigation and insurance, made up a grand total as of January 1, 1951, of \$2,245,000,000. ✓

Last year poultry producers sold 339.2 million pounds of poultry meat and, in addition, consumed 66.1 million pounds at home. The combined total of the amount consumed and sold was worth \$166,260,000. ✓

## Rod and Gun

# Afield

By Kit Kitney

For my money, long range duck shooting, more than any other form of shotgunning, calls for a long range load which will really balance out the two problem "P's" of smoothbore ballistics.

The first "P" is for pattern—most important factor in all shotgunning. Pattern is the distribution of the shot pellets over the killing circle. You can't kill unless you hit, and the density of the pattern determines the number of hits.

The second "P" is for penetration—and small shot just doesn't meet this requirement. Sure, the small pellets hit, but they lack the power to drive into vitals.

It comes down to a matter of balancing power and pattern against the range at which shots are taken, and the size of game.

For 55-60 yard duck shooting you'll find it takes big shot, and shells crammed with the heaviest powder and shot charges which can be used safely in standard shotguns, to measure up.

Majority of Canadian gunnemen use 4's, and rightly so. The pellets retain more than 2 foot-pounds of energy beyond 60 yards. There is enough shot in the 1¼ ounce load (170 of 'em) to give adequate pattern density.

And the new "Pressure-Sealed Crimp" we're getting in "Maxum" and "Imperial" duck loads, helps hold those patterns out to extreme ranges. Absence of the interfering top wad seems to keep more of the shot inside the effective killing area.

Take a tip from Kit Kitney, popular columnist of the Winnipeg Tribune. When you go duck shooting, you can count on the famous "Pressure-Sealed Crimp" in C-I-L Shot Shells for cleaner kills and fewer cripples. Ask for IMPERIAL Special Long Range and MAXUM Long Range.

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# FOUR YEARS OF RECORD FARM PROSPERITY

*Liberal Policies help agriculture flourish*

## CASH INCOME FROM THE SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS

<b>Pre-war (1936-39)</b>	<b>average per year</b>	<b>\$ 649,500,000</b>
<b>Wartime (1940-44)</b>	<b>" " "</b>	<b>\$1,196,200,000</b>
<b>Post-war (1945-48)</b>	<b>" " "</b>	<b>\$1,966,800,000</b>
<b>Post-war (1949-52)</b>	<b>" " "</b>	<b>\$2,560,000,000</b>

Under Liberal administrations agriculture has been more prosperous than at any time in history. During the last four years of Liberal Government *Canada's most important industry* has flourished as never before. With farm cash income averaging \$2,560,000,000 per year, farmers have been able to reduce mortgage and other indebtedness to a new low level for modern times. They have been able to improve their dwellings and farms greatly, to mechanize their operations to a high degree, and to introduce many new comforts and conveniences of modern living in their homes.

Liberal Government action, worked out by practical farmers and in consultation with farm organizations, is helping to keep agriculture prosperous. Progressively developed long-range policies and special measures to meet emergencies are in line with the great needs of agriculture. These needs, as seen by Liberal leaders, are: (1) markets for farm products that will yield a return over cost of production and (2) special protection against recurring crises over which the individual farmer has no control, such as those caused by weather, pestilence, market gluts, trade restrictions and violent swings in price levels.

## HERE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THE ST. LAURENT GOVERNMENT HAS DONE DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS TO HELP INCREASE FARM PRODUCTION, FIND MARKETS, PROTECT PRICES

Established an Agricultural Products Board to buy and sell farm products, when this is in the interests of the producer, to foreign governments or agencies.

Prevented a disastrous slump in the price of beef cattle during the foot-and-mouth disease outbreak under authority of the Agricultural Prices Support Act; made special arrangements to sell beef in Britain.

Continued to support the Canadian Wheat Board as a marketing agency for Prairie production. Negotiated successfully for renewal of the International Wheat Agreement, guaranteeing increased minimum prices for a large part of Canada's wheat exports.

Continued use of the Agricultural Prices Support Act to prevent disastrous slumps in farm prices due to over-production, temporary loss of markets or other causes.

Continued freight assistance on the movement of feed grain from the Prairie Provinces to British Columbia and Eastern Canada.

Secured lower duties on Canadian farm products entering the United States and other countries.

Lowered or removed tariffs on various items of farm equipment coming into Canada.

Amended the Canadian Farm Loan Act to increase the amount of money which may be loaned and to make procedure more flexible.

Carried out irrigation and soil conservation projects; assisted in development and distribution of improved seed varieties, extended research activities.

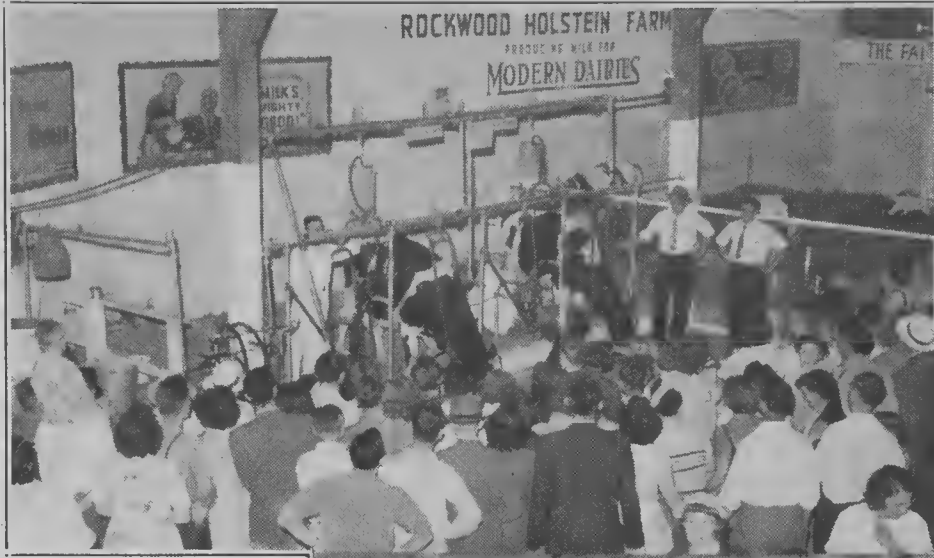
*Help maintain a prosperous farm industry*

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*a great leader for a greater Canada*



## LIVESTOCK



Exhibition crowds watch the glass jars fill with milk while attendants answer any questions.

Right: Beverley Millington holds the bucket while the hungry calf gulps the milk.



## Dairying On Display

*Crowds of city people came to the Red River Exhibition to see the cows milked, and found it an intriguing story*

MILKING cows and feeding calves is liable to become tedious drudgery to one doing it twice a day, month after month, with never a let-up or rest.

It is a different thing altogether to city folk who usually see nothing more of the milk they drink than the bottle in which it is delivered daily to their doorsteps. To them, milking cows has all the glamour and mystery of an Egyptian dance, and thousands of visitors to Winnipeg's Red River Exhibition showed it this summer.

A group of high-producing Holsteins competed with dancing girls and curious side shows at the exhibition and won more than their share of attention. They were loafing for a living, and relaxed in the open pens between milkings to show spectators what solid comfort really was. Then, while the crowds thronged in to see the climax to the show, they ambled

into the milking parlor where the attendant put the milking machine in place. While the milk was drawn through pipes into a glass jar and the crowd oh'd and ah'd at the quantity of their production, the contented cows nonchalantly ate their grain.

Then the junior member of the herd was brought into the act. Startling the children in the audience, who had found it a real chore at home to get even a small glass of milk down their throats, this eager young Holstein only a few weeks old, shoved his nose into the bucket of milk and with a few happy shakes of his tail, drank it without a complaint.

Modern Dairies Ltd. and Rockwood Holsteins Ltd., sponsored the show, proving that when it came to the test, exhibition visitors would just as soon see enacted the real story of how their food is produced as to see some of the side shows. V

## Grain for Dairy Cows

SINCE roughages are the cheapest livestock feeds on the farm, the first step in making milk cows pay is to have all the good grass and legumes the cow will eat. Then, if grain is expensive and milk is low in price, it is often a good idea to forget all about feeding grain to milking cows.

Rutgers University in the United States has carried through a five-year experiment to find out how high in price grain must go before it gets too expensive to use as feed for milk cows. They have shown that although cows can be made to produce heavily by feeding a lot of grain, the extra milk costs money; and a good rule for most herds with the cows on good pasture is

to feed one pound of grain for every six pounds of milk produced.

When grain is cheap, say about \$40 a ton, and milk is worth \$3.50 per cwt. or more, it pays to feed a lot of grain, as much as one pound for each three pounds of milk produced.

When the milk price drops to less than \$3.50 per cwt. with no change in the price of grain, then it's time to ease up on concentrate feeding. When the cost of grain rises to \$75 a ton and milk sells for anything less than \$3.90 per cwt., it's time to stop feeding grain. Above \$3.90, one pound of grain for every six pounds of milk should be enough.

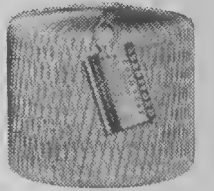
No production records will be made by cows on a straight roughage ration, but the milk produced will be the cheapest possible.

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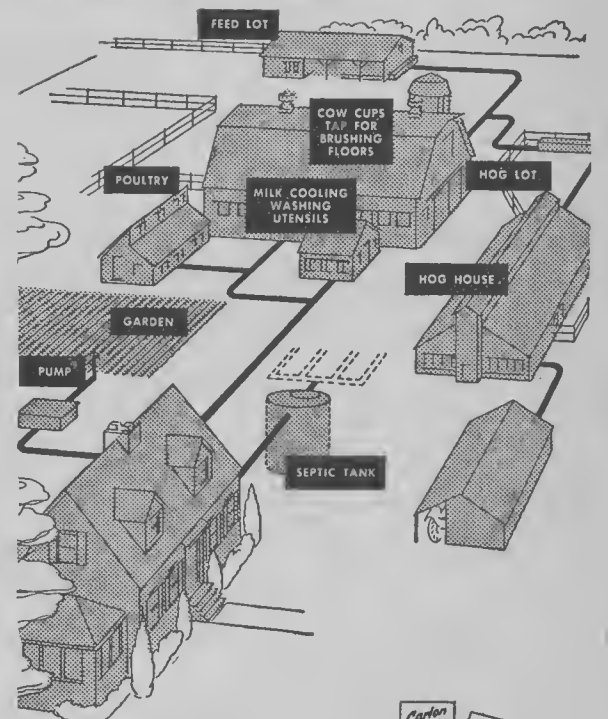
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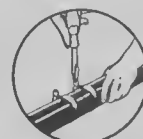
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### Prevent Sun Scalding

A SHELTER to keep hogs out of the sun need not be fancy or costly. If hogs that are running outdoors are expected to do well, they must have some shade however. Posts supporting a pole framework covered with brush, straw or other light material, will do the job. A coarse growth of green clover placed on the framework of the roof will settle down and won't blow off. It should last all summer and will let the rain drip through, helping to control the dust.

Hogs are more likely to be sunburned and blistered when they eat plants that cause a skin allergy. While damp with dew in the morning, rape causes this allergy, and should be limited to afternoon use. V

### How Far Will Cattle Travel?

WHAT difference does it make where the water hole or well is located in the pasture? A big one, says the Swift Current Experimental Station. It may mean the difference between a pasture that will last for years, and one that will be tramped and overgrazed, and allowed to fill up with weeds. In large pastures that are undergrazed, if the water hole is not near the center, the part of the field away at the farthest end may never be grazed, while the land near the water may be grazed and tramped down too short.

Although cattle will make good gains and still travel two miles or more to water, very little pasture is eaten if it is more than a mile and a half away. If the land is rough, that distance is shortened again to about a mile. V

### Time for Livestock Changes

HAS the livestock business any serious problems? Dr. J. M. Bell, of the University of Saskatchewan, says it has. Swine producers still lose 30 per cent of the pigs born on their farms; dairy cows only live half as long as beef cows; and thousands of bushels of grain are still being fed inefficiently.

These examples indicate that there is still much to be learned in this country about the care of livestock. Yet, says Dr. Bell, the problems which could be answered by research work, are often neglected because of lack of funds. In some provinces, for example, appropriations for publicly supported universities are becoming less in relation to total government expenditures, which seems ironic in a period of great scientific advance. V

### Put Hogs To Work

IF the farmer's swine herd is given the job of digging roots and getting rid of trash in the clearing of new or unused fields, they won't complain a bit. Pigs will undermine every stump, eat all the roots and small brush, loosen the soil more effectively than a plow and increase the field's fertility into the bargain. Even big stumps, which they can't root out, will be left standing like monstrous spiders when the pigs have done their job. V

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\*DG means Diesel General

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## FIELD



*Haying is a thirsty time for the man on the end of a pitchfork.*

## Controlling Weeds With 2,4-D

*Herbicides, like many farm aids, must be correctly used*

**F**OR the last few years the use of selective weed killers has been increasing rapidly. In 1952 approximately three and a half million acres of crop were treated with 2,4-D in the prairie provinces alone.

The main purpose of using 2,4-D is to increase crop yields. If the herbicide is not used correctly it can have the opposite effect. Improper dosage is less important than wrong timing, though both can cause crop damage.

Experimental evidence gathered over the past seven years indicates that it is relatively safe to use 2,4-D for weed control in the wheat crop from the time the plants have reached the five-leaf stage, until the shot-blade is fully expanded. Within this "safe" period, the treatment should be made when weeds are growing well but are still fairly young. The younger the weeds the more readily they can be killed.

Weed identification is important because of the varying susceptibility of weeds to 2,4-D. Lambs' quarters, stinkweed, tumbling mustard and wild mustard can be killed with small dosages, up until the time they flower. Russian thistle is susceptible until side branches begin to form, but in the next stage resistance mounts rapidly. Flixweed and tansy mustard can be killed in the seedling stage, but after the stems begin to lengthen they will be only slightly damaged. Wild buckwheat is one of the most resistant weeds, and normal dosage rates of 2,4-D will do little more than set it back.

Amine 2,4-D at four to eight ounces free acid basis, or ester 2,4-D at three to five ounces, are recommended for use against susceptible weeds and more resistant weeds in the seedling stages. The lower rates are recommended unless more resistant or older weeds are present.

Work done on district experiment sub-stations in southern Manitoba, and conducted from the Brandon Experimental Farm, has shown a fairly consistent increase in yields as a result of spraying with 2,4-D. A further advantage is that the use of the herbicide over a period of years is effective in gradually reducing the number of susceptible weeds in a field.

Other work at Brandon and at the Experimental Station, Scott, Sask., has been done on the spraying of oats. Tests have shown that oats is sensitive if sprayed during the period from emergence to the early shot-blade stage. The crop is most susceptible to damage when the first nodes are beginning to form, the stage at which the plants are fully tillered and some six to eight inches tall. Spraying at this stage should be avoided.

Spraying oat fields can be most safely undertaken from the time the stems begin to elongate and the shot-blade has begun to form, the plants usually being eight to ten inches tall at this time. Spraying should be avoided after the early boot stage.

Oats have been found to be less tolerant to the ester than to the amine form of 2,4-D, especially in years of above normal rainfall. In seasons when conditions are conducive to rapid growth the use of the amine formulation is recommended by the Experimental Farm, Scott, Sask. ✓

## Making Oil Last Longer

**A** PROCESS for making lubricating oils serve for more hours of machine operation has been developed by Drs. R. E. Puddington and A. F. Sirianni of the Division of Applied Chemistry, National Research Council. It is expected that the process, now available for licensing, may make oils last several times longer.

The new process is based on the knowledge that oils deteriorate largely as a result of oxidation. When oil is exposed to air it slowly takes on oxygen, forming hydroperoxides. A chain reaction then begins, deteriorating the oil rapidly. This second reaction can be halted by counteracting the hydroperoxides with "highly positive" metals, such as lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, or their salts and oxides.

Possible methods of adding the protectives, as the process is perfected, include attaching a piece of metal to the drain plug, dispersing the material in the oil, or impregnating the filter.



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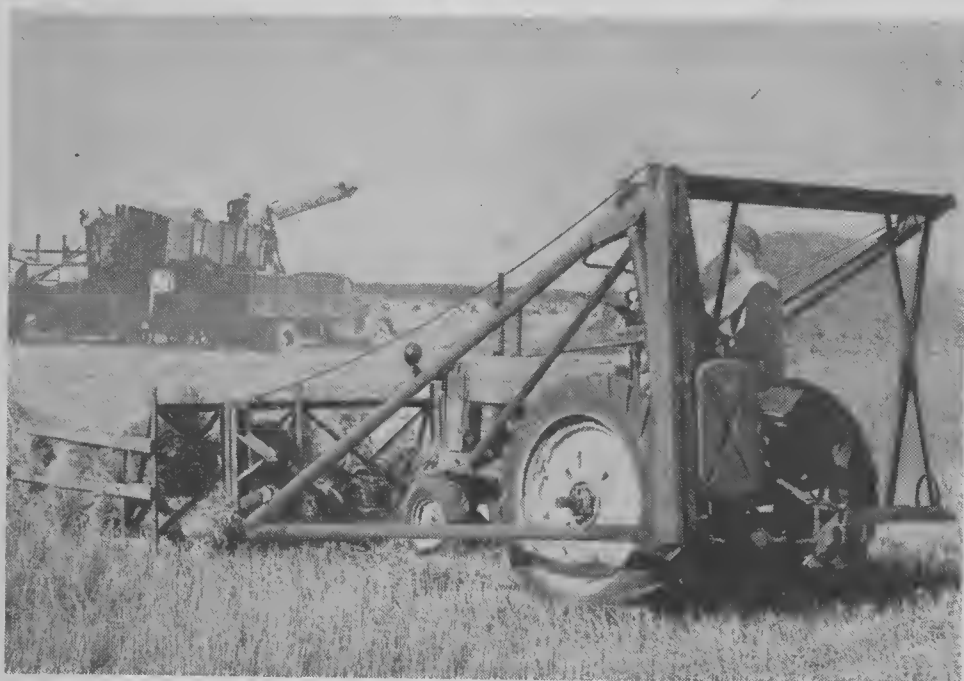
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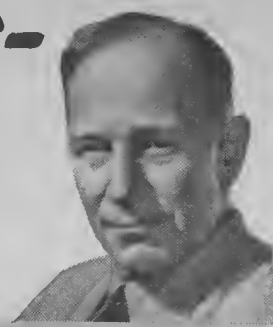


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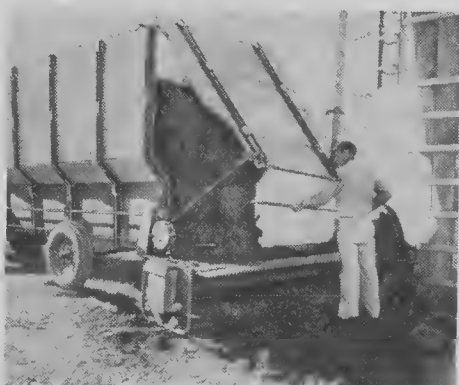
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These scientists are also working on a process for making lubricating greases last longer. Greases are made by adding absorbent materials to oils. Many of these materials, such as silica gel, have an even greater affinity for water than they have for oil, and the greases gradually disintegrate when they come in contact with water.

In the early processes the absorbent material was treated with a water repellent before the oil was added. In the new process a small amount of drying oil is added to the lubricating oil, and the absorbent material then added. The drying oil is absorbed on the surface of the absorbent material. When this mixture is heated, the drying oil coats the particles, to form a water-repellent grease.

As these two processes are developed they should have an important effect on machine lubrication. V

### Visit the Experimental Station

**T**HE midsummer months are an excellent time for farmers and others interested in agricultural production and investigation, to pay a visit to the experimental station in their district. In late June, July and August, field crops, vegetable crops and ornamentals are at a stage of growth to permit an appraisal of different varieties. The effects of chemicals on weeds can be observed; and work underway with livestock, poultry, fruit, flowers and bees reviewed.

Community groups, such as 4-H clubs, women's institutes, horticultural societies, and others planning an outing, can profitably visit their experimental station. If such groups get in touch with the station they plan to visit, they will be welcomed.

Experimental stations in Manitoba are located at Morden and Brandon. In Saskatchewan they are located at Indian Head, Scott, Melfort and Swift Current, and forest nursery stations are located at Indian Head and Sutherland. Alberta experimental stations are at Lethbridge, Lacombe and Beaverlodge, with a range experiment station at Manyberries. There is a range station at Kamloops, B.C. Other B.C. stations are at Summerland, Agassiz, Saanichton and Prince George. V

### Weeds Still With Us

**F**ARMERS and scientists are waging an unceasing war against weeds, and the weeds are fighting back. Two hundred and twenty-two farmers answered a questionnaire distributed by the Manitoba Weeds Commission, in co-operation with a number of the grain companies.

Of the 160 farmers who considered wild oats the greatest weed problem on their farm, 128 thought it was on the increase. Next in order of seriousness, these Red River Valley farmers placed wild mustard, green foxtail, Canada thistle, wild buckwheat and sow thistle.

The most popular method of combating wild oats was by delaying seeding and planting barley—a practice adopted by 147 farmers, while 31 stressed a fall-spring tillage, 24 depended on summerfallow, 16 cut the infested crops for green feed, and eight seeded down to grass-legumes.

There was more unanimity in the control of broad-leaved weeds; 206 of the 222 farmers questioned used 2,4-D as an aid to weed control. V

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## HORTICULTURE



*This is the Garland spirea, which blooms about mid-May and provides a very showy and pleasing floral display.*

### Bearded Iris Are Popular

Morden Experimental Station authorities have commented on the great improvement in the color, bloom and substance of the new varieties of iris, which have been developed during the last ten years.

These plants do best in open, sunny positions where they bloom better than when grown in shady spots. Once planted, the recommended varieties will continue for quite a few years. Established plants will be helped by two ounces per plant of ammonium phosphate, applied when they have finished blooming. Dead foliage, or flower stems which have bloomed, should be removed without delay. Clean cultivation is important.

Iris may be transplanted safely after they have done blooming, which is in early July, but in such cases, water should be available and the plants should be shaded from the burning sun. Morden recommends waiting until the end of August, or early September, before planting. By October all the dead leaves may be pulled off and burned, and either a light covering of cornstalks or brush put on, to hold the snow over winter.

Morden notes some excellent new varieties: California Gold; White Goddess; Golden Majesty; Sorrel Top; Old Rose; June Day, the standards white edged with lavender and the falls white, with blue edge and vein; Santa Clara, very tall, lavender blue, large with orange beard; Santa Rosa, soft shade of old rose; Aida, late, burning bronze, with orange beard; Golden Majesty, mid-season, deep chrome yellow; W. A. Satchell, very large, violet, blue, self-color. ✓

### Blossom End Rot

Have you had tomato plants grow rapidly and vigorously in the spring, do well most of the early summer and then develop fruits, many of which develop rot at the blossom end? This is called blossom end rot. The experimental station at Saanichton, B.C., explains much of this damaged fruit, by pointing out that the most severely affected plants are often those which have been fertilized liberally and watered freely in the early part of the

season. The result is that they are large and vigorous and have developed a high water requirement. This water demand is felt especially in the latter part of the season. By then the plant is full grown, the leaves give off much water, and at the same time, fruits are being produced which also have a high water content. It is unfortunate too, that at this season soils are generally most deficient in moisture. The condition suggests that the rot is associated with a water deficiency in plants which have developed a very high water demand.

The station suggests a thorough watering every ten days or so, rather than frequent light sprinklings, which may not penetrate to the roots. ✓

### Floral Crown At Niagara

Inspired by the famous floral clock in Princes Street Gardens in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1950 the staff of the Ontario Hydro Electrical Commission erected a floral clock at Queen-ton, not far from Niagara Falls, the dial of which is 38 feet in diameter. This year the clock has been given a colorful coronation theme, by arranging 20,000 foliage plants in the shape of an Imperial State Crown. The predominant colors are gold on red. The crown itself is 6½ feet wide and 9 feet high, and features jewels made of white, gold, brown and yellow cacti. The initials "E R" appear in yellow and the crown is set against a background of red alternanthera.

In previous years the hours on the dial have been indicated by the letters of the words "Ontario Hydro." This year they are replaced by pink roman numerals, each surrounded by flowers. The clock has become a popular tourist attraction. The hour and minute hands made of stainless steel are counterbalanced with lead, the hour hand measuring 14½ feet, and the minute hand 16½ feet in length. ✓

### Home Grounds Competition

Entries for Manitoba's Farm Home Grounds Competition, which is sponsored by the Manitoba Horticultural Association, close July 31. Entries should be forwarded to F. J. Weir, Provincial Horticulturist, Legislative Building, Winnipeg. ✓

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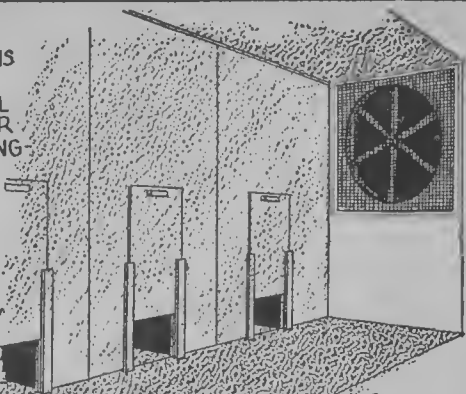
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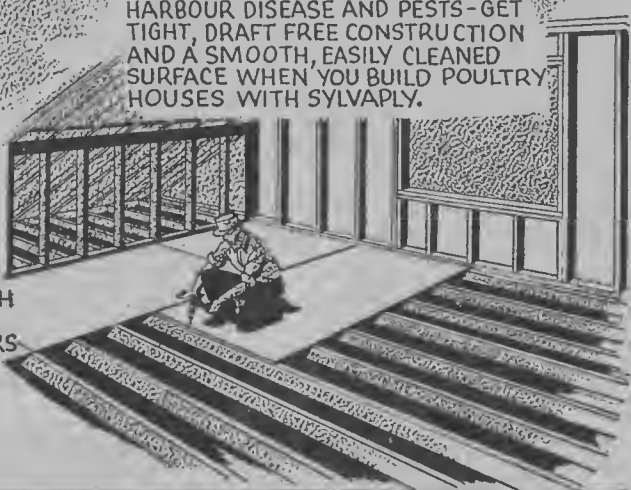


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## POULTRY



This young poultryman makes sure the growing birds have plenty of feed.

## Handle Your Birds

*Extra time spent with the growing birds is not time wasted*

SOMETIMES it is easy to discover why chickens get sick and die. In fact, a good many birds in poultry flocks die just because they don't get enough care.

Take the case of the poultryman who brought a few dead chicks to a veterinarian not long ago. There was no sign of infectious disease, but the gizzards of these dead birds were swollen and unhealthy looking. That was the clue and the search began for the real cause of their death. The chicks came from a flock of 300 and in the pen were two feed hoppers 40 inches long. That meant 160 inches of feeding space counting both sides of the hoppers—not much more than half an inch for each bird. With 300 birds struggling to get their turn at the hopper, it was no wonder a lot of chicks were dying. The little fellows, or the backward ones, didn't have a chance to get near the hoppers, while the big healthy ones were crowding and shoving among themselves. So the little ones ate the litter and dirt off the floor and it was killing them.

Let's look at another case. A big flock of 1,500 chicks was in trouble, and when they started to die, their numbers decreased in a hurry. They were dying of coccidiosis. The flock-owner was doing his daily chores in this big flock, in less than an hour. Labor economy was too good, for the chicks needed more care than that.

“Water belly” is another disease appearing in western poultry flocks sometimes. The skin over the breasts of the chicks may be stretched tight from the pressure of the liquid accumulating underneath, and some chicks will die. But it is usually easy to prevent. Most of the water in western Canada is hard and has sodium in it. Feed has sodium in it too. The sodium in the feed is in tiny crystals and it will gradually filter down to the bottom of the hopper if

it isn't stirred up regularly. Then if chicks pick their way to this feed at the bottom of the hopper and take a big drink of hard water, and do it very often, they will soon start to suffer from water belly. To prevent it, all a poultryman has to do is stir the feed in the hoppers every day, instead of just piling in more and more feed on top of the feed that isn't eaten.

It is possible to sense trouble before it becomes too apparent, but this generally means handling a few birds from the flock every week, to see that they are growing and gaining weight. When a bird starts to lose weight from coccidiosis, or tuberculosis, or poor feeding, or anything else, the feathers will spread out and make it look as though the sick bird is growing and fattening. Then in a few days, the sickness will be worse and it will be quite a shock when birds start to die and the whole flock is found to be sick. From the time the chicks reach the brooder house, care counts until they finally go to market. V

## Good Eggs In the Summer

THE air cell by which egg quality is measured may be kept small, if eggs are gathered at least three times a day, preferably in a wire basket and carried to a cool, damp place such as the cellar or ice house. There they may be spread out on racks to cool for 24 hours before packing.

Plenty of clean nesting material will be needed if clean eggs are to be collected. A community nest for each 50 birds, or a single nest for every four or five birds, will give the flock enough room to lay. Birds will stay cleaner and healthier, if the floor is well covered with dry litter or straw, and if the dropping pits are screened off from the flock. V



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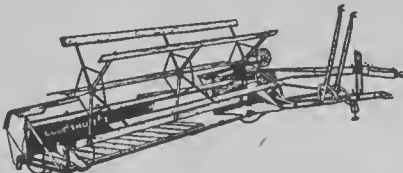
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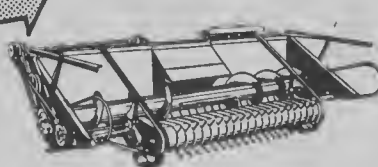
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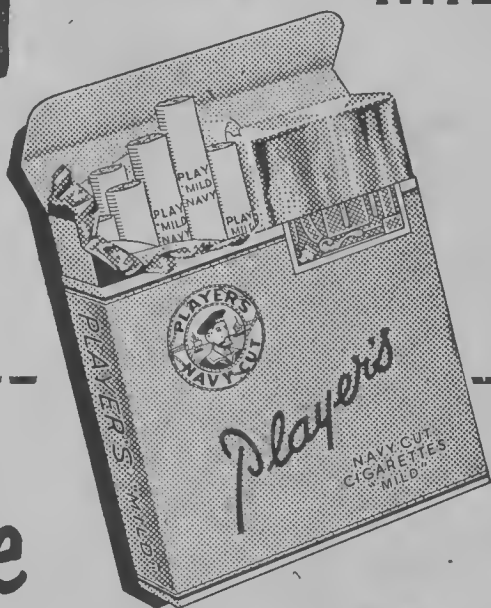


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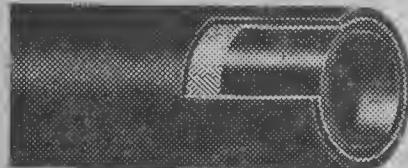
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### HOSE

### FOR EVERY FARM NEED



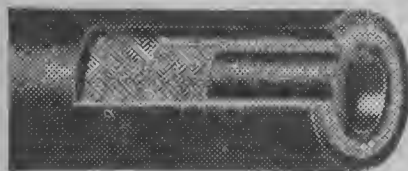
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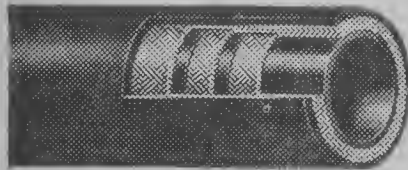
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# GOOD YEAR

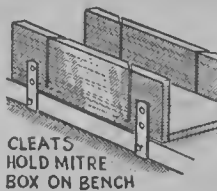
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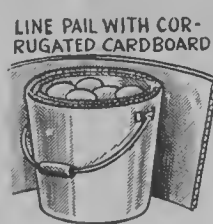
## WORKSHOP

Handy ideas for the midsummer month

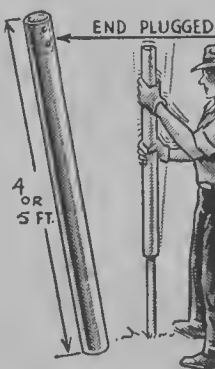
**Mitre Box Cleats.** Two cleats placed on a mitre box, as shown, so they can be placed against the edge of the work bench, will keep the box from jumping around when in use. On mine I have drilled a hole in each cleat, and tack it to the bench.—E.S., Sask. ✓



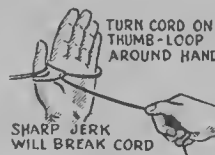
**Avoiding Cracked Eggs.** Two sheets of corrugated cardboard placed inside an ordinary pail will cushion the walls and bottom and make a bucket more satisfactory for gathering eggs. The cardboard can be glued in place.—A.B., Sask. ✓



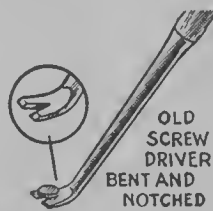
**Pipe Post Maul.** A one-inch rod four or five feet long with one end plugged with a piece of steel rod four or five inches long makes an excellent tool for driving ground rods to a height that permits them to be driven with a sledge hammer. A larger pipe made on the same plan can be used for driving fence pickets, if the pickets are straight.—E.S. ✓



**Breaking Cord.** Binder twine, which few people can break in their hands on a straight pull, can be readily broken if wrapped around the hand. Anchor the twine around your thumb and drop the part to be broken around the palm of your hand, as shown. A sharp jerk will break the cord where it pulls across itself.—M.M.E. ✓



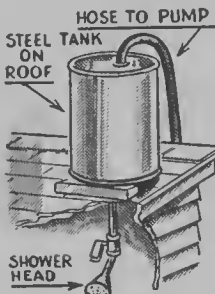
**Tack Puller.** I made a dandy tack puller by bending the point of an old screwdriver, and filing a notch in it, as shown in the illustration.—E.S. ✓



**Nut and Washer Rack.** Take a piece of strong wire and bend it to form hooks, as shown in the illustration. Slip nuts and washers over the hooks according to their respective sizes. I find that a few of these hung on a roof beam or wall keep washers and nuts within quick and easy reach.—G.C. ✓



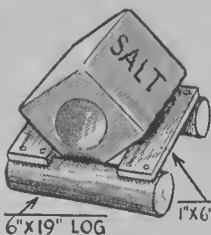
**Convenient Shower.** Men coming from the field may wish to have a shower, and I have found a tank placed in the sun allows the water to heat enough that showering can be done comfortably. If there is a big demand for showers, use a large tank.—I.W.D. ✓



**Cotter Pin Mark.** File a mark across the threaded end of a bolt or axle to correspond with the cotter pin hole. When a nut has to be tightened on and pinned it does away with guessing if the holes in the nut and bolt are in line. I have used the same idea in assembling gears or pulleys which are pinned to a shaft.—A.B., Sask. ✓



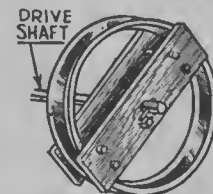
**Salt Saver.** If the salt block lies on the ground moisture soaks up from below and dissolves some salt, and rain water will lie in the hollows the cattle have licked out and dissolve more. I took two 19-inch pieces of pole and nailed two cleats across, as shown, and find that my salt blocks last longer.—A.M.M. ✓



**Garden Aid.** Tall growing plants can be easily supported in the method shown in the illustration. The stake with the holes drilled in it can be located when the plant is first put out, which avoids root damage. As the plant grows the loop of wire can be moved up the stake.—A.B., Sask. ✓



**Homemade Pulley.** For cutting down motor speeds I made a large pulley from an old 30 by 3½-inch car rim. I bolted a one by six on each side, found the center, and bored a hole to fit the shaft I was going to use it on. I bolted a cleat beside the hole in the one-by-six, drilled a hole through the shaft, in line with the cleat and put a pin about four inches long through it. When the pin strikes the cleat it turns the pulley. A split collar clamped to the shaft and bolted to the one-by-six would work as well as the pin arrangement.—I.W.D. ✓





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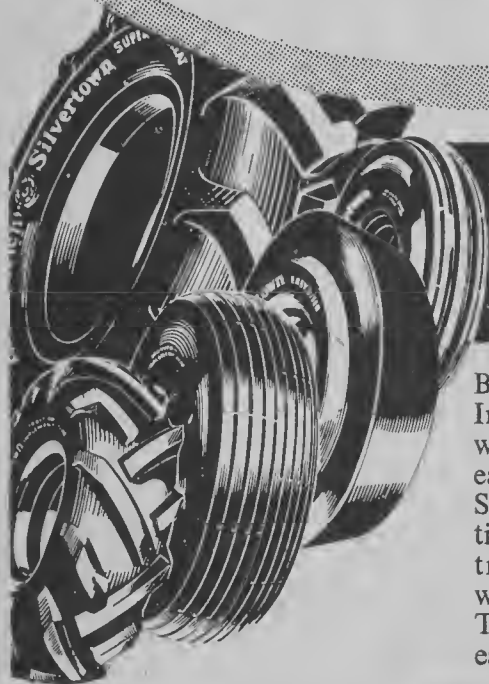
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### Prairie Crop Conditions

The extremely wet spring experienced in many sections of the prairie this year may result in a wheat acreage reduction of something in the neighborhood of 13 per cent, according to early and unofficial estimates. While it is expected that the wheat acreage has been materially reduced in the three provinces, very probably the greatest reduction has occurred in Saskatchewan where this year's acreage may be as low as 14 million acres. In some southern sections of the province it has been estimated that not more than 50 per cent of the intended acreage was seeded and that in some of these areas, as much as 40 per cent of that seeded was destroyed by excessive rainfall. In all three provinces, the reduction in wheat acreage has resulted in an increased area being devoted to coarse grains with a probable increase in that intended for summerfallow.

Weed infestations and particularly wild oats are reported to be more prevalent than usual in most regions and some damage by wireworms has been observed. Although crops are 10 to 14 days later than normal their condition is about normal for Manitoba and Alberta, and well above normal for most sections of Saskatchewan. Moisture conditions are fair to excellent and could indicate a normal or above normal out-run—barring, as every farmer knows—such pestilences as hail, greenbugs, stem rust, early frosts and poor harvesting conditions this fall.

As yet it is too early to make any sound predictions on the damage which stem rust will inflict although conditions are more than favorable for its development. Reports indicate the appearance of stem rust of race 15B in much heavier quantities than a year ago in the states of Texas and Oklahoma. The lateness of the crop, the rank growth and substantial moisture supplies in the spring wheat areas of the United States and western Canada are conducive to rust development. What is needed is warm, sunny weather to hasten the crop to maturity and few south winds during the crucial part of the growing season.

### Canadian Grain Movement

Exports of Canadian grains have maintained a high tempo during recent weeks with the combined domestic and export movement frequently exceeding the volume of primary deliveries. Visible stocks of wheat, coarse grains and flaxseed have all shown a decline as a result of the combined effects of a high export volume, producers' preoccupation with seeding difficulties and the poor condition of many country roads.

Stocks of Canadian wheat in other than farm position stood at 248 million bushels on June 11, 1953, comparing with 214 million bushels on the same date last year. Visible stocks of oats were 33 million bushels, barley 60 million bushels, rye approximately 12 million bushels and flaxseed 2.7 million bushels. Stocks of these four grains on the same date last year were as follows: oats 49 million bushels, barley 58 million bushels, rye 7 million bushels and flaxseed 2.3 million bushels.

Producers' marketings of the principal grains are well above last year's level at this time with the exception of oats which has fallen somewhat. Total deliveries of all grains to June 11 were 648 million bushels compared with 619 million bushels a year earlier. However, during the month of May, producers delivered only 52 million bushels to country elevators while shipments out of country elevators totalled some 70 million bushels. It will be recalled that some months ago Trade Minister C. D. Howe prophesied a farm carryover of 133 million bushels at July 31 of this year. To accomplish this end, present delivery rates by producers will have to be almost doubled. The Minister's statement was based on an estimate of marketable stocks of 964 million bushels from the 1952 crop of which 316 million bushels remained in farm storage at June 11.

Despite the fact that the world grain market situation appears clouded by surpluses held by the United States government agency, the Canadian picture is still one of considerable activity. Canadian exports of all grains from August 1 last year to June 11 of this year stand at 476 million bushels compared with approximately 397 million bushels during the same period of the previous year. Exports of wheat are currently running some 26 million bushels ahead of last year's figure but the most striking increase has been in barley. Exports of this grain at mid-June last year were in the neighborhood of 55 million bushels, but during the same period of the current year were well over the 100-million bushel mark. Exports of oats have shown only a small margin of increase over the past year's volume.

A small but steady movement of flax into the export market has been proceeding since the opening of navigation with about three and three-quarter million bushels disposed of in overseas markets. Belgium has been one of the major buyers of this commodity with France and Norway taking smaller amounts.

The United States market for Canadian oats is difficult to assess at the present time and limitation of this market appears possible. It has been reported that the U.S. government has requested Canadian authorities to restrict exports to the U.S. as a result of alleged protests from certain sections of the American farm group. No official statement has been made by the Canadian government, but the Canadian Wheat Board has control insofar as the issuing of export permits are concerned and could therefore regulate such movement. However, feeders in some of the eastern states place a high value on Canadian oats and are said to have protested the possibility of restricting such imports. This movement across the border has been greater than last year at the same date, and although there has been some falling off in recent weeks, a fair volume of Canadian oats has continued to enter the United States.

As reported, however, the President instructed the U.S. Tariff Commission to investigate the question of imports of oats into the United States. Hearings commenced on July 7 at which time the Commission sought to deter-



# COMMENTARY

mine whether oats imports are hurting the price support program or reducing the quantity of commodities processed in the U.S. from domestic oats. The investigation is said to have been instigated by a United States Department of Agriculture report to the chief executive.

Since oats are under a U.S.D.A. price support program, a request for a Tariff Commission survey is provided for under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act which authorizes restraint of imports if such imports tend to weaken the effectiveness of the domestic price support program or the orderly marketing of the product concerned.

The subject of importation of oats was examined on numerous occasions under the Brannan regime but the then secretary of agriculture declined to make any recommendation for a Tariff Commission study. U.S.D.A. officials at the time apparently found little justification for such a move. During recent months Senators Young and Jenner have been urging import controls, claiming that imports of Canadian oats have seriously depressed the price of oats to U.S. producers.

The possibility of restriction of importation of Canadian oats into the United States is one which is not relished by advocates of freer international trade. An examination of the Canada-U.S. trade picture in recent years reveals that the United States has been enjoying a substantially favorable balance.

## Delivery Restrictions Modified

Farmers in a number of districts are now able to deliver grain in excess of current quota restrictions as a result of recent Canadian Wheat Board instructions.

A number of producers in various localities had an acreage largely devoted to oats during the 1952 season and with existing limitations on deliveries were unable to obtain a financial return comparable to that of producers who had acreages distributed between the principal grain crops. In order to alleviate this situation the Wheat Board on the 25th of May announced that it was prepared to grant special permits for additional deliveries of oats over the existing basic and supplementary quotas on the following basis: Where an acreage seeded to oats in 1952 bears the following percentage relationship to their total acreage seeded for all grain (wheat, oats, barley, flax and rye) for that year: (a) Over 50 to 60 per cent—4 bushels per seeded acre of oats; (b) over 60 to 70 per cent—6 bushels per seeded acre of oats; (c) over 70 to 80 per cent—8 bushels per seeded acre of oats; (d) over 80 to 90 per cent—10 bushels per seeded acre of oats; (e) over 90 per cent—12 bushels per seeded acre of oats.

The Board advised elevator companies that special permits would only be issued upon application on the part of the elevator agent stating the producer's name, permit number and acreage seeded to each grain in 1952. No deliveries over the existing quotas are acceptable until such time as the special permit has been received by the elevator agent.

Further increases were announced on June 18 with respect to oats deliveries. Producers whose seeded acreage of oats ranged from 40 per cent to 50 per cent of their total seeded acreage were permitted an additional three bushels per seeded acre. The quantities of oats previously authorized for delivery were also increased by 50 per cent in the case of producers whose seeded acreage of oats exceeded 50 per cent of their total seeded acreage in 1952. Under this policy producers in the categories referred to in the foregoing were granted a further special permit to bring their deliveries up to the following basis: Over 50 to 60 per cent—6 bushels per seeded acre of oats; over 60 to 70 per cent—9 bushels per seeded acre of oats; over 70 to 80 per cent—12 bushels per seeded acre of oats; over 80 to 90 per cent—15 bushels per seeded acre of oats; over 90 to 100 per cent—18 bushels per seeded acre of oats.

On June 18 the Board announced that it was prepared to consider applications from elevator agents for approval to accept additional quantities of wheat and barley to fill space not required for the balance of the grain remaining to be delivered under present quotas and any special authorizations for the delivery of oats. Prior to making application for permission to accept such additional deliveries elevator agents are required to advise producers who still have grain to deliver under the present quotas, that space is available and that it is the intention of the agents concerned to request permission to accept additional deliveries. Where the Board authorizes additional deliveries of wheat and barley, authorizations are granted on the definite understanding that the current quota has been delivered or that space will be reserved to protect deliveries still to be completed under the current quota.

Present quotas include the basic 15-bushel quota, a 3-bushel supplementary quota and special quotas to farmers whose oats acreage exceeded 50 per cent of their seeded acreage in 1952.

## No Delivery of Treated Grain

Mercurial compounds are highly poisonous to humans and producers must not allow treated seed to become mixed with grain intended for sale.

To protect consumers the Board of Grain Commissioners passed the following regulation:

In order to prevent the entry into commercial channels of grain treated with poisonous fungicides, the Board has made, effective immediately, the following Regulation No. 28:

### Delivery of Treated Grain to Elevators

Every person who offers for storage or sale at a licensed elevator any grain which has been treated with mercurial dust or compounds, or with other toxic materials, or grain mixed with other grain which has been so treated, shall if an individual, be liable on summary conviction, to imprisonment for not more than three months or to a fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars and, if a corporation, shall be liable, on indictment or summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding One Thousand Dollars.

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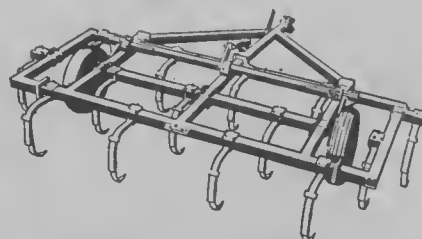
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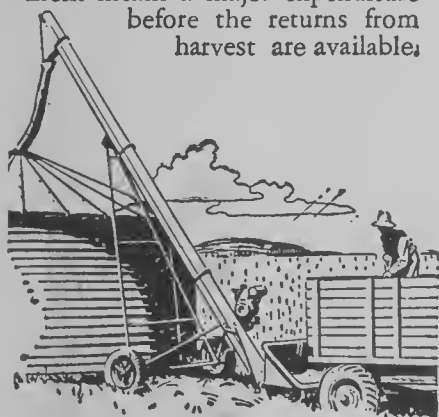
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## NO TIME FOR DELAY at HARVEST



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For this reason, most farmers pay special attention to their harvesting equipment. Modern machines have greatly reduced the labour requirements of harvest. However, the machines wear out and the purchase of new equipment means a major expenditure before the returns from harvest are available.



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43-3

# IMPERIAL

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## International Farm Conference at Rome

Continued from page 7

countries are not only more likely to get what they want when they want it, but also they are more likely to get it at a reasonable price."

The International Wheat Agreement brought out some lively discussion in the committee meetings but members of the committee were unanimous in expressing their approval of the Agreement. Delegates from the U.K.'s National Farmers' Union were reported to be wholeheartedly in support of the I.W.A., and to have promised to continue in their efforts to influence the U.K. government, in the hope that the government might yet reconsider its attitude toward the Agreement.

The resolution on the subject that was finally adopted by the I.F.A.P. included an appeal that governments be urged to make further efforts to draw into the new Agreement all those countries that had participated in the expiring Agreement. This was understood to mean that the I.F.A.P. delegates were in favor of a reopening of the International Wheat Council talks, if the U.K. showed willingness to participate.

In any event, with or without any further action by the U.K., the I.F.A.P. recommended that those countries who had already signed the new provisional Agreement, should be urged to follow up, with formal ratification of their signatures, in order that the new I.W.A. might go into effect on August 1, as planned. In addressing the general assembly, the chairman of the policy committee, H. B. Caldwell, of the United States, described the I.W.A. as of "vital importance to peoples around the world."

**A**NOTHER subject linked with international commodity agreements and having the active support of the Canadian delegation, was the question of building up a world food reserve. This reserve, which, it was believed, could be developed into a practical operation from the joint efforts of F.A.O., the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the U.N., would be built up from surpluses. These could be drawn upon to meet the needs of any areas suffering from shortages, as circumstances demanded. Delegates were of the opinion that such a reserve would be another factor contributing toward greater stability of prices, and that further study was warranted. It was pointed out that close attention would have to be paid to the problem of fitting a food reserve into the existing pattern of trade, and reconciling it with such factors as price support policies in individual countries, and commodity storage arrangements.

The particular problems applying to European agriculture were discussed at length. It became apparent that the solution of the problems was dependent on the solution of Europe's general trading difficulties. President Martin had said in his opening address that hopes that the generosity of American aid would bring about a re-establishment of a balance of international trade, had proved unfounded, but he thought that, with a constructive and balanced approach to the problems, better economic conditions could be produced, along with stabilization and

the planning of agricultural markets. This need not take away the freedom of the individual farmer.

The discussions of the European situation that took place in committee showed that, rather than any curtailment of liberty, the delegates saw a reduction of restrictions as being more likely to ease the European situation. Freer movement of trade across international boundaries within the European continent itself was spoken of; increased exports to the dollar countries, stimulated not only by a reduction of prohibitive tariffs, but also by a simplification of customs procedures, were hoped for and the convertibility of non-dollar currencies was advocated. In addition, it was agreed that Europe's actual earnings from exports should be carefully allocated to imports of more revenue-producing capital goods, as well as for currently needed consumer goods.

In addition to the main planning and policy committee, two other committees held independent discussions during the period of the meeting. One of these dealt with the internal administration and the finances of the I.F.A.P. The other devoted its time to the problems and opportunities of agricultural co-operation throughout the world.

In citing the danger of agricultural co-operatives becoming mere business organizations and thereby laying themselves open to attacks from non-co-operative organizations, President Pierre Martin said that the education of young people in co-operative ideas and practice must begin very early and be continued through to the higher forms of education. Both the Canadian and the U.S. delegations declared themselves to be interested in the continuance of the scheme for the exchange of young farmers between North American and European countries.

At a plenary session of the assembly on the final day of the meeting the reports of the various committees were adopted and new officers were elected. Allan B. Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, was elected I.F.A.P. president for the coming year, and special provision was made in order that Mr. Hannam, leader of the Canadian delegation and former president of I.F.A.P., might be invited to attend the executive committee sessions during the 1953-54 period "in recognition of his long association with the work of the Federation's executive committee."

The final plenary session marked the end of nine days of discussions which were often extended over long hours. Proof of the delegates' belief in the value of these discussions was given by the proposal that, in future, a general assembly of I.F.A.P. should be held annually instead of bi-annually as in the past. The delegation from Kenya offered to provide facilities for the holding of the next assembly in that country.

During the meeting, delegates visited an Italian land development project and saw the impressive facilities being provided for the forthcoming international agricultural exhibition. Delegates also attended a private audience with Pope Pius XII, during which the Pope referred to the "absolutely abnormal way in which agriculture has become a mere appendage of the industrial world, particularly where markets are concerned." ✓

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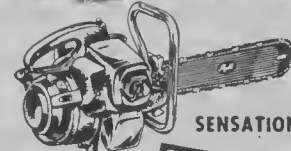
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# A Highway Comes Home

*But times have changed in fifty years and the old place doesn't look the same*

by F. W. TOWNLEY-SMITH

WHEN, as a youthful member of the Barr Colony, I started from Saskatoon on April 30, 1903, with a team of black oxen pulling a covered wagon or "prairie schooner," I headed west on the Battleford trail. After about ten days filled with incident, the wagon rolled slowly into that old historic town. If ten days seems a long time to make a journey of 100 miles, it should be stated (to prevent any unkind thoughts concerning the oxen), that two of the days were spent in the valley of Eagle Creek to allow us to get our breath back after making the hair-raising descent down the precipitous slopes of the Eagle Hills.

After a week's rest in Battleford, during which time I managed to get a game of cricket with a team from the R.N.W.M.P., the trail was once more resumed. It was now known as the Edmonton trail, and was followed very closely by the stakes of the newly surveyed Canadian Northern Railway. The second hundred miles, which were to bring us to our destination, proved to be even more harrowing than the first, and provided our first experience with a prairie fire, and afterwards, a severe snowstorm which precipitated a food shortage. I remember shooting into a flock of black-

birds, while we were laid up during the snowstorm, and killing seven. They provided fresh meat for one meal. Another recollection is that of walking wearily and warily around and around a slough, trying to get a shot at some ducks, which I could hear, but could not see. They afterwards proved to be bullfrogs!

Finally, my father decided that he had gone far enough west, and homesteaded on some land about half-a-mile north of the trail we had followed for 200 miles. The government of the day was quite willing to bet him 160 acres to \$10 that he could not live on it for three years, and the gamble was on!

A TENT, and afterwards a house, was erected where a view of some two miles of the trail could be obtained. Since this trail was the main highway to the West, wagons with their white tops were almost always in sight. Sometimes a smart buggy, drawn by a team of fast-moving horses, would quickly move over the two-mile stretch; and once a week the mailman, with his heavy democrat loaded with mail sacks, would pass along. Sitting in the doorway of the house, these signs of civilization were

very welcome, as we were now 200 miles from a railway, and were becoming very homesick. After a couple of years men and teams appeared on the scene, and began to build the grade for the Winnipeg to Edmonton line of the Canadian Northern Railway, when, finally, the smoke of a locomotive came into view, the lonely feeling practically disappeared. Now we had trains to watch for, as well as wagons.

Civilization, however, brought other changes. Highways were being constructed throughout the province, and trails, except in isolated places, were a thing of the past. These roads were built "on the square" and did not ramble all over the countryside. So



"If you're going to chase after my son Annie Lou, chase after him with my other tractor—with the disk attached!"

it came to pass that at a point some three miles east of the farm—my father had won the bet—the road headed north, and no longer could we see the traffic which moved along it. True, we could see the trains, but who would want to look at a train, if they could watch a covered wagon drawn by a big team of "bulls," and loaded with all the earthly possessions of some hopeful family. However, there was plenty to do, fixing up a new home in the Canadian Northwest, and the fact of the disappearance of the trail and its travellers was accepted.

Then, lo and behold, after years of plodding, civilization took another plunge. The powers-that-be decided that a highway running alongside the railway would cut off considerable mileage, and thus would reduce the cost of hard-surfacing and upkeep. So, once again the main highway to the West is where it was 50 years ago. Once again from the door of the house, the stream of traffic on the two-mile stretch can be seen, as history repeats itself. Not the slow-moving prairie schooners with the two-ox-power propulsion, or the buggies with the smart teams at ten miles per hour, but the trucks, the cars and the busses, moving over a hard-surfaced road so quickly that one has to be alert to identify them before they pass behind the trees, which have now grown up. When night comes, their headlights brighten up the road. The tempo of everything has changed. But as an old-timer, my memory goes back to the glimmer of the campfires and the clanging of the cow bell, when the tired travellers bedded down for the night.

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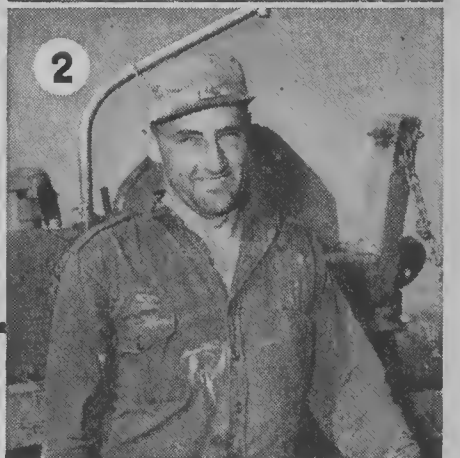
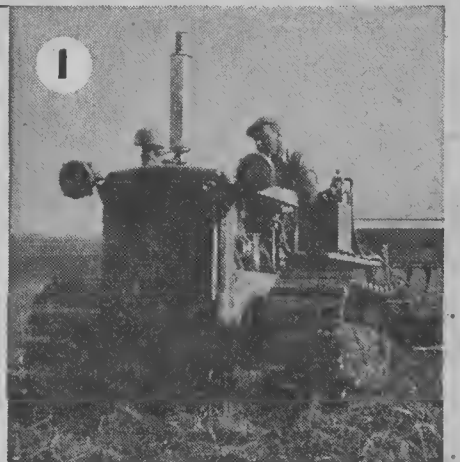
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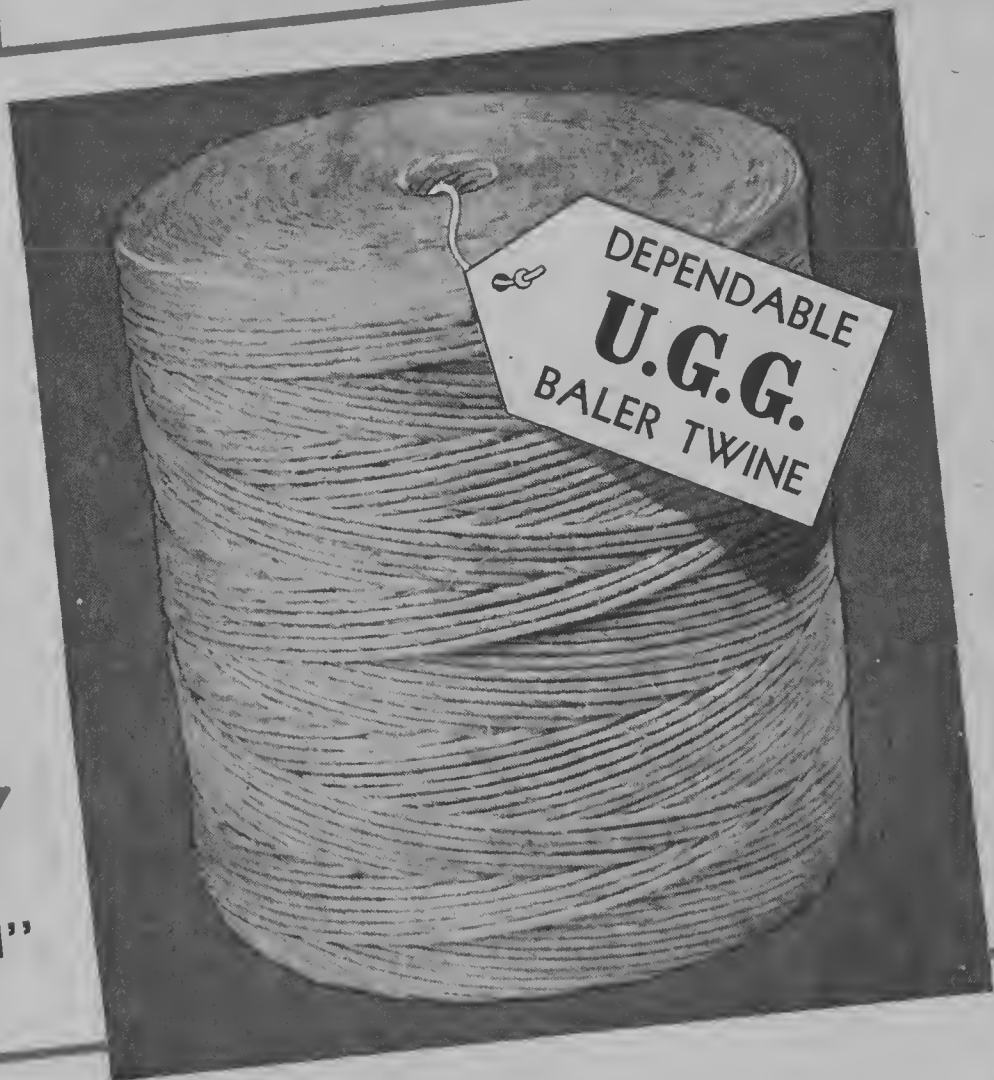
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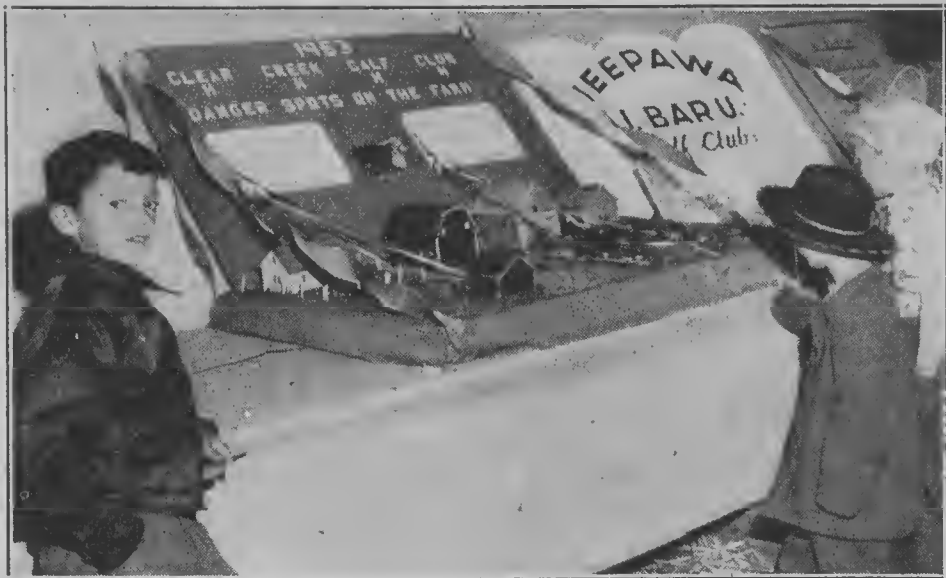
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## FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



These young chaps are examining the well-kept farmstead at left, and beside it the farm with leaning barn, broken ladders and wire-entangled cows.

## Club Displays Are Fun

*Neepawa Rally Day visitors got laughs and good ideas too, from the Clear Creek Calf Club exhibit*

THE Clear Creek Calf Club of Manitoba is only five years old, but for all its youth, it is brimming over with ideas which is what makes it so much fun for the members. Already, neighborhood skeptics have begun to agree that a club which encourages young farm people to meet together, and carry out programs and develop displays, has a useful place in the community.

The club exhibit at the giant Neepawa 4-H Club rally last month, was a good example of the kind of work they do, under the leadership of enthusiastic and devoted club leader, W. J. Brown, Crawford Park farmer. They prepared an exhibit this year which was different. Although they are calf club members, something with broader interest was agreed on, and they set out to build a display on farm safety.

"At first, we wondered just how we would illustrate farm safety," says club leader Brown, "but then, when we got working on it, the ideas came along naturally."

They decided to make a comparison of a safe and well-kept farmstead, with a ramshackle place that would be a real danger spot for anyone working on it.

When they started to discuss the features of that unkept farm, scores of ideas were suggested, and strangely enough (or perhaps not so strangely), most of the hazards suggested and used were those that club members had seen on their own or on neighboring farms.

"We'll leave the paint off that old barn," suggested one member, "to be sure it is one that is well weather-beaten."

"We'll have it leaning toward one end, as if it had a notion to upset," enthused another. "Our own barn has a pretty sad lean to it, and it can be the model."

From another livestock-minded member, "I've seen cattle badly torn from rolls of old barbed wire. Let's have a cow tangled up in some."

From the tractor-minded member, came the idea, "We'll show a tractor mixed up in a set of drag harrows."

On a more solemn note, since a neighbor had been killed by a bull not too long before, a model of a bull being carelessly led through the yard on a short piece of rope, was contrasted with a bull kept at a safe distance by a pole-type leading staff.

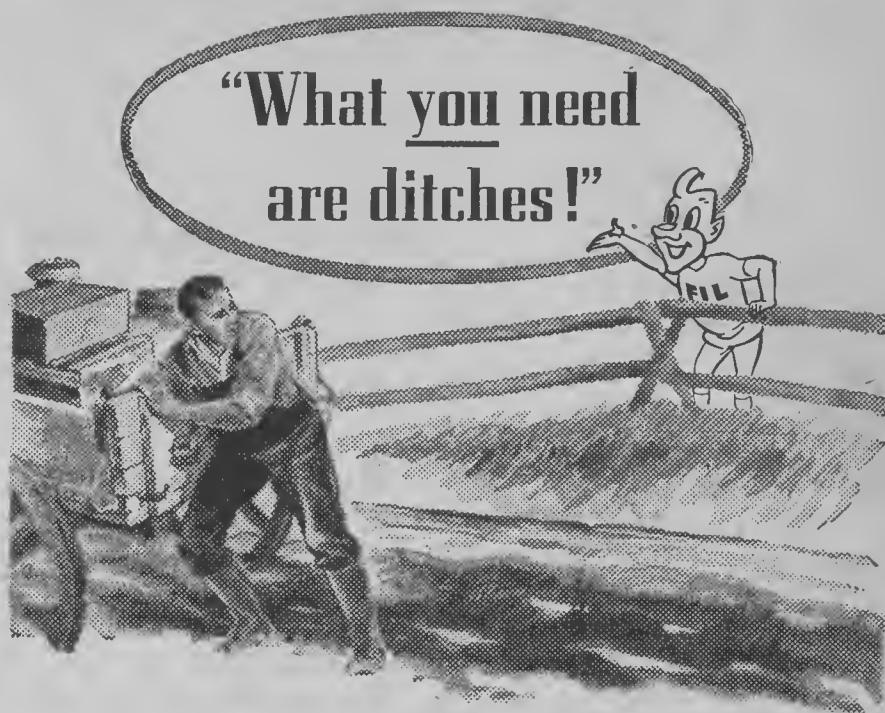
CLAY was put to work by the eager hands of the club members, to model livestock and people, while the good buildings and poor ones were built of wood. With a rainy spring giving them extra time for the display, it soon took shape. A neat and tidy farmstead appeared on one side of their platform, and on the other, the grotesque features of that purposely hazardous farm. One, two, three, four, were the rungs of a ladder up the front of the tired old barn, but the fifth rung was missing, and sprawled on the ground below, still clutching that fifth rung of the ladder that hadn't been repaired for years, lay the unhappy climber.

The weather-beaten barn had been carried to the field day at Neepawa with its front door intact, but the roughness of the ride inspired a new idea. One of the hinges had been shaken loose, and, said the club leader, the door looked a whole lot more realistic hanging cornerwise across the opening.

Although it was fun to build, the exhibit still had to prove popular to Rally Day visitors, and this is where the real satisfaction of something worth while accomplished is gained by club members.

When fair visitors stopped and laughed as they saw the model of the cow just on the verge of slipping into that old uncovered well, or the model of the unpainted and unrepaired barn rearing up on one end, or the clay farmer with that fifth rung still grasped in his hand, or the cow struggling and kicking to free herself from that barbed wire entanglement; there was no doubt as to the success of the exhibit.

It provided a laugh for the visitors, but more than one visitor probably said to himself as he left, "By jove, maybe my own farm needs a bit of cleaning up and repair work too." ✓



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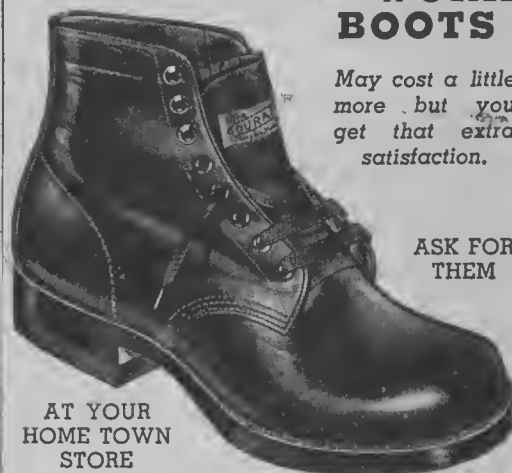


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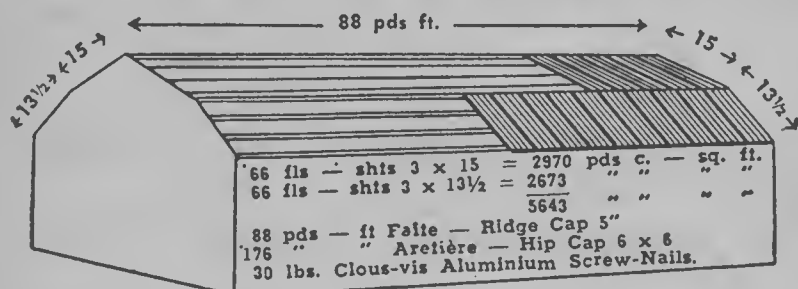
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## It's the Berries!

*Yes, it surely is. And how some people do love to strip them from the bushes you have been guarding until the fruit becomes really scrumptious*

by INA BRUNS

ALL'S fair in love and war, I've been given to understand; and I suppose that law is the one that governs the actions of berry pickers—at least that's the way it works out in our neck of the woods.

Take the last summer we had a bumper saskatoon crop! We had some bushes growing along the front yard fence that were bending their limbs downward with smoky-blue fruit. As they reached their prime, I one day told the man in my life: "I'm going to make you a saskatoon pie for dinner."

Now some women are pie makers and some are cake makers and I happen to be the latter. My husband loves pies, however, so he was delighted with the prospect of fresh pie for dinner. I got out the mixing bowl and started the messy job of mixing lard and cold water and flour. Just about the time I got to the part I most dislike—the part where the dough adheres to the board, the rolling pin, and my hands, I heard a knock at the door. With hands shrouded in pie dough I went to answer it and found a young Miss with flaming red hair and face, peering up at my pie dough.

"I've come for some drinking water," she informed me, "drinking water with ice in it!"

Suddenly I noticed that her hands and lips were stained a deep blue. This husky maiden was either suffering from extremely poor circulation of the blood, or else . . . "Oh, good heavens, not that," I moaned. One quick glance out the front window told me there was nothing wrong with the girl's health. There was, however, something very wrong with the bushes that were only a moment ago laden with fruit. They were now standing very straight and without a trace of berries!

"Mama told me to ask you if there are any other patches of berries around here that we could go to," the scarlet-faced one panted over her drinking glass.

I could think of a number of places Mama could go, and I toyed with the idea of naming one in particular, but instead, I gave her some water and started searching around for something to put between those pie crusts.

PEOPLE really don't know what competition in the berry patch is, until they get a patch of blueberries. Blueberries! That fruit that is fit for a king—or a queen, but which few ever taste on the prairies, except those living near the foothills of the Rockies. When I speak of blueberries, I am not talking about those you buy in stores. No, the kind I'm talking about are something entirely different—something people climb mountains for, fall on their knees for, and crawl over briars, ant hills and bees' nests, to scrape up with steel combs made especially for the purpose. For true blueberries, the kind that bring people for miles and miles, grow on a bush no taller than a dwarf pansy, and the berry itself is the size of a small pea. One solders nails to a tin can to fashion a kind of comb, and then one crawls over the rough terrain, scraping up berries, bugs and dead leaves until one is so

stiff one can scarcely creep back to camp. Now we have some blueberries on our ranch. I only dare mention the fact, because we now have cattle on the land and people will no longer pour in to investigate the prospects of a field day. However, there was a time when more people could be found slipping around through that timber than one could shake a stick at. Most of them were "looking for the old red sow," and then again it might be "a cow." Some were "just out to enjoy the sunshine" and "just happened to run across a few blueberries." They never explained how they "just happened to be carrying berry pails, pickers and mosquito lotion, and why they were hiding in a ditch when we happened along."

If our place has been given over to cattle, our neighbor still had a small area of berries last year. It was the very first time she had had a patch and the family was looking forward to blueberry pies all winter. Unfortunately, our friend had a slight accident and was unable to pick the berries on the "green side" so in order to check anyone "looking for a red sow," she had their six youngsters patrol the area.

But the kiddies are not wise in the ways of blueberry pickers. Not only did the pickers arrive and spend one day looting the patch, but they came back with another family to finish the job the second day!

"I thought it was bad enough when the bull broke in and ate every strawberry plant, but now all the blueberries are gone too! And they didn't even ask," my neighbor cried.

And since I've been living here for some years and have managed to fool at least some of the looters some of the time, I gave her some advice. I think she'll get her berries this year!

It's not blueberries, but highbush cranberries, that have been driving another friend crazy. When the berries are starting to turn red, people start calling at the door demanding to know where the berries are. Cars arrive bearing kids and dogs and prospective pickers, and they drive through stands of registered seed grain, throwing down gates and fences that bar their way. One family stripped the berries from the patch the lady of the house always picked, then arrived at the house for some drinking water.

"Guess we'll just eat out here on this patch of grass," one picker told the startled owner as he started unpacking boxes of food and bringing out ice cream freezers dripping with salt water.

That "patch of grass" just happened to be a lawn that received meticulous care for close to 20 years. Those shrubs and trees the kids and dogs were leaping over were valuable nursery stock. The owner pointed out the advantages of the "patch of grass" just over the hill. Finally, after much mumbling about farmers thinking they owned everything, the party went over the hill to litter the pasture with paper plates and drinking cups.



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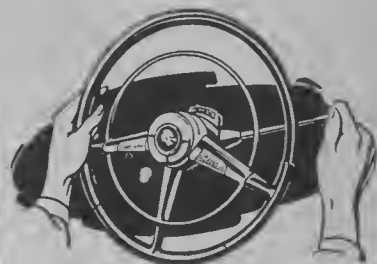


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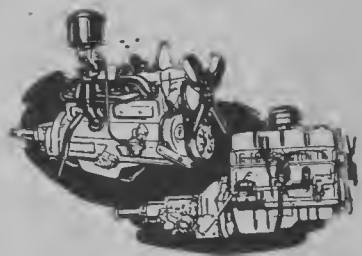
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## No Need For Costly Barns

*Continued from page 9*

thrown. Only occasionally, when it didn't feed freely, did he have to go into the loft and stir it up. That wasn't the only labor saved. Bedding the herd had to be a simple job too, and holes cut in the edge of the loft floor made it easy to throw straw into the stable below, or through a chute into the bull-pen just beside the stable. Here again, hay is thrown down a second chute right into the bull-pen manger, or down a third into the small, but comfortable corner of the stable, which houses the horses and a few calves.

After using this remodelled barn for a full year, Archie Londry is very pleased with it. Still, it isn't without disadvantages. One of them is that the feed manger in the center of the stable takes up too much space and leaves the herd crowded in the small stable. Another plan could have placed the feed manger along one side of the barn, with the hopper leading down into it from the edge of the loft, instead of the center. This would have meant more hay to fork, but would have left more room for the herd in the stable below.

**E**VERY farm has its own needs and the Londry barn shows how one man designed a set-up that suited him.

George Holmes, agricultural engineer, Manitoba Department of Agriculture, says every farmer who wants to do something about his buildings is probably facing one of three different problems. Either he needs to remodel an old barn, or he needs to build a new one, or he needs a combination of both.

A remodelling job on an old hip-roofed barn like Archie Londry's might be the thing that is needed. But, suppose the ceiling is too low inside the barn to make it a loafing pen. Then why not turn it into a feeding area, where the cattle can come and go as they please, and the feed can still be stored in the loft. Part of the stable might be turned into pens for calves or pigs, or cows that are going to freshen. Then another structure might be built beside, or close to the barn, to shelter the cattle when they want to lie down.

Or, if there is no barn at all on the farm, and you are determined to put one up, the cheapest one is likely to

be the best, and a pole barn has been the answer to the prayers of many a cattleman. It's the cheapest type that is recommended by many engineers and it can be made to suit nearly every purpose. Built alongside another barn, or by itself, a pole barn is easy to put up and can be adapted to many different needs.

If hay is to be stacked outside, it can be stacked close to the pole barn, so the cattle can eat from the stack at their leisure. Either baled or loose hay can be stored in the end of the barn and movable feeding racks used.

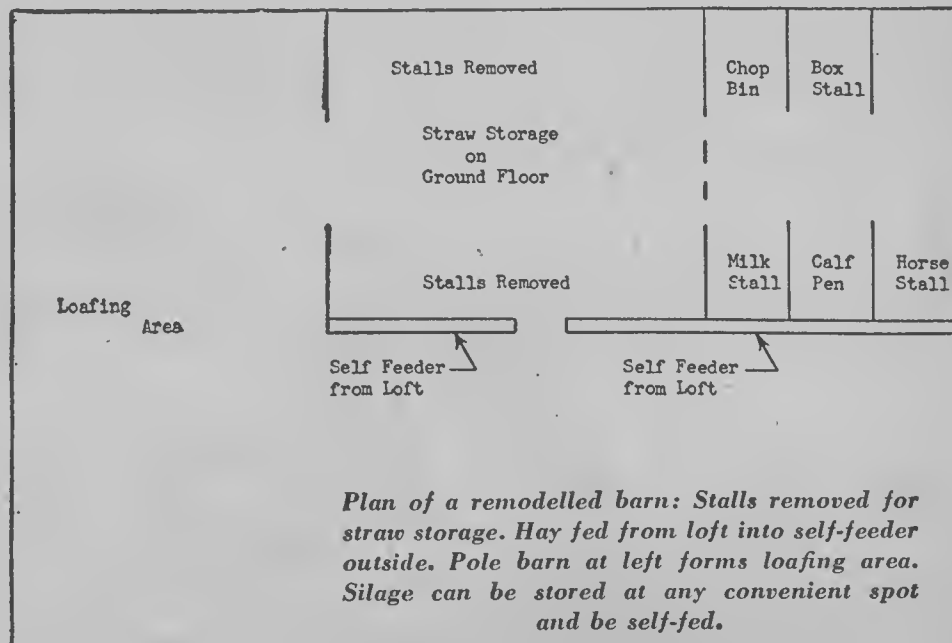
Usually the front of the pole barn is left open. If a little extra protection from the wind is needed as well as extra space to store hay and straw, bales can be piled along a part of this open front and used as the winter goes along.

Silage coming from a trench or stack can be fed in any convenient spot nearby; and feed bunks for silage or grain can be built either in the barn or outside.

**T**HE framework of a pole barn, as the name suggests, consists of poles set into the ground four or five feet deep. These poles should be treated with a wood preservative to retard rot. Since they rise up right to the roof, the barn can be completed by putting a roof on top and boarding in three or four sides as needed. A common width of barn is 31 feet. This would require a row of poles along each side, probably 13-foot centers, and another row of longer poles reaching to the peak of the barn. Rafters are securely fastened to the outside and to the center poles. If a truss-type of frame is used for the roof, the center row of poles might be eliminated, leaving the inside of the barn free of these obstructions. On the other hand, if a wider shed is needed and trusses are not used, the center row might have to be replaced by two rows, one on either side of the center. Each rafter could then be fastened to the two poles on which it rests, and the facing rafters can be securely fastened together at the peak.

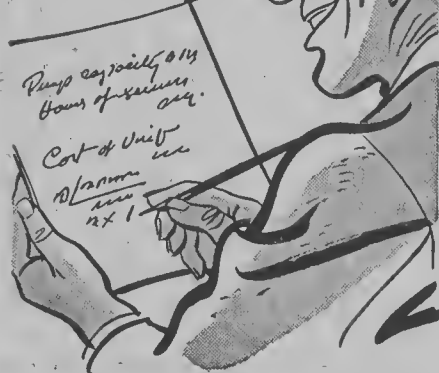
About 60 square feet of space is suggested for each beef cow and the pole barn can be enlarged to suit any size of herd simply by setting up more poles at one or both ends and roofing and boarding them in.

Time spent planning buildings that provide comfort for the cattle at the lowest possible cost, and that simplify chores at the same time, is time that pays for itself. V





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## Loafing Acres Pay No Dividends

Continued from page 11

had 111,424 cultivated acres, which included only 558 acres of tame grass. Only ten farmers in the municipality had used fertilizers; 139 used 2,4-D for weed control; less than 50 per cent owned cattle; less than 37 per cent had any pigs; and only 40 per cent had poultry. A mile and a half south of the R.M. is an illustration station on "burn-out" or "blow-out" land, where the wheat yield for the last 13 years has averaged 27.6 bushels per acre as compared with 16.3 bushels per acre in the municipality. In other words, the illustration secured one bushel of wheat for each 0.5 inch of rainfall, whereas the farmers in the municipality secured a bushel for each 0.9 inch of rainfall. In this municipality 74 per cent of the land was assessed as Class 1 or 2 (the lowest grade for wheat production), and the average assessment for the municipality was \$8.23 per acre.

A municipality in the southwestern part of the province, with an annual 15-year average rainfall of 13.6 inches, and an evaporation rate of 29.2 inches per year, had had more than a million dollars of relief of various kinds since 1940, exclusive of the last two crop years. It had a taxable assessment of \$2,800,000 and a ten-year average wheat yield, following 1940, of 11.1 bushels per acre. Over half the land in the municipality was Class 3 or 4, and three-quarters of the land was cultivated. Slightly over one per cent was in tame grass, about 160 acres was irrigated and more than 2,600 additional acres could be irrigated either by spring flooding, gravity or sprinkler. There were no cattle on 38 per cent of the farms and a further 37 per cent had less than ten head per farm. While 44 per cent of the farms wanted more livestock, 37 per cent did not produce sufficient winter feed for the livestock they had, notwithstanding that livestock numbers were relatively low. Horses had gone down 50 per cent; cattle up about 20 per cent; sheep, down 90 per cent; swine, down more than 40 per cent; and poultry down more than 25 per cent since 1946. Tame grass was also down 20 per cent, at 2,842 acres out of 185,000 acres of improved land.

This committee recommended that all Class 1 land (poorest)—414 quarters, or 27 per cent of the total—should be utilized for grass and legume production. It also recommended that a detailed survey be made to determine the extent of the resources for irrigation, and the prospects of fully utilizing these resources for fodder supplies. It noted that 38 per cent of the farmers habitually summerfallow later than June 1, the latest date recommended.

**A**NOTHER municipality in the north-central part of the province undertook to survey one division of the municipality only, as a preliminary to further surveys. This involved 200 quarter-sections, of which 85 per cent were owned by the operator; an arable acreage of 25,334, including 10,202 acres of summerfallow crop, averaging 183 acres per farm. Average yield for the three-year period, 1949-51, was 16.4 bushels; pasturage totalled 3,269 acres, of which only 683 acres

were grass seeded for hay, and grass and grass-legume pasture mixtures. Pasturage was calculated to be adequate for 215 head of stock, whereas the Division had 569 head, exclusive of horses and swine, which numbered 99 and 531 respectively. About 25 per cent of the farmers had used some fertilizer, but with disappointing results.

In the northwest corner of the province, reports from 188 farmers in five of the six divisions in one municipality, indicated an average of 305 acres in grain and summerfallow for each 16 acres in grass and legumes. There was one-tenth of an acre each in alfalfa and sweet clover, for each 151 acres of wheat. Only 12 farmers were growing barley; 24 per cent had experienced soil drifting in recent years, while a further 36 per cent reported water erosion in the last five years.

On these farms, 55 per cent of the operators put no manure on their fields, while 56 per cent used no fertilizer. Only 38 per cent used sprayers for weed control. Cattle on these farms averaged 14.2 head, but 97 farmers kept no more than ten head because of lack of pasture, lack of winter feed, labor shortage, lack of water, or by preference. On these 188 farms, 57 had electricity, 26 had sewage systems and 22 had water systems. Only 5 of the 57 farms with electricity were on the power line. Accurate farm accounts were kept by only 45 per cent of the operators, of whom 19 per cent kept no farm accounts. On these farms, over 4,100 acres had been broken since 1945.

**T**HE data from the five surveys referred to, was selected to represent conditions existing in various parts of the province. They indicate the value of a detailed survey of municipal areas, as a means of highlighting problems.

What these surveys do indicate and will continue to indicate, as more municipalities undertake them, is the vital importance of a satisfactory adjustment of the people to the land and the land to the people. It is characteristic of farmers that they adjust themselves, as a rule, to the limitations and temper of the land. Fewer are inclined to take the next step—and attempt maximum adjustment of the land to the people. Lack of capital and experience are frequently responsible in large measures for this condition. This type of adjustment requires both knowledge and enterprise which, when combined, produces what may be called sound progressive farm management. The combined good sense and experience of a community may overcome obstacles the individual is not able to surmount.

A municipality, the smallest unit of civil government on the prairies, is itself an enlarged community. The interests of a province are the interests of all its individual communities and municipalities. To awaken public responsibility to better land use, as the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture is attempting to do through land use surveys and all that may flow from them, is a vital function of provincial government in an agricultural province. Unless these surveys result in programs of action generated by the farmers themselves, the hope of all those, both on and off the farm, who covet a higher standard of living for rural people, is likely to be long deferred.

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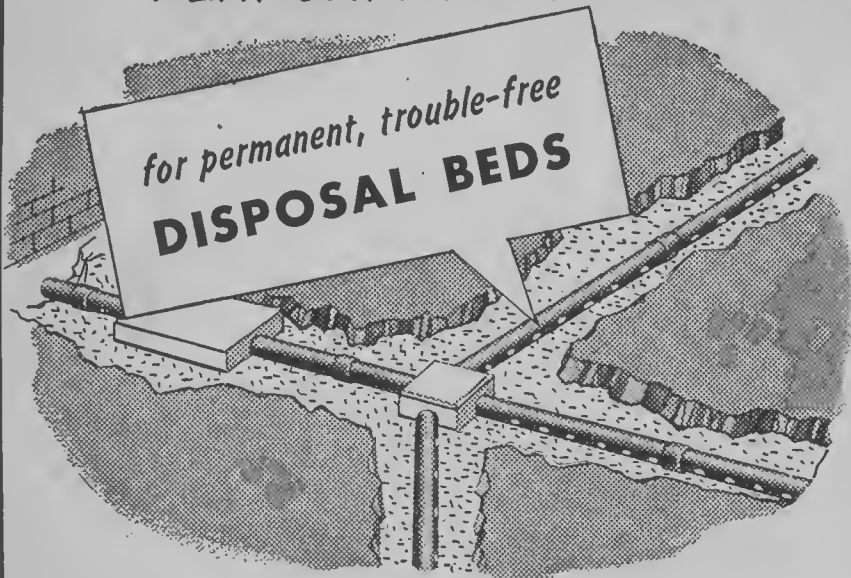
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## The White Pony

by DELBERT A. YOUNG

THE homesteader fingered the two bills in his pocket while his gaze roved over the herd of half-wild horses. Finally, it rested on a small shaggy pony. "How much will you take for the white one?" he asked.

The owner of the horses, a tall, sun-browned man, looked at the homesteader and the two eager-faced boys standing beside him. His eyes narrowed shrewdly, "Twenty-five dollars."

The faces of the boys fell. The father turned partly away. Hastily, the horse dealer said after him, "What'll you give me?"

The settler turned back, "Twenty dollars. It's all I've got."

"Hey, Slim," yelled the tall man to the nearest of his riders, "throw a rope on the white colt."

Later, when the herd was again on the move across the rolling Alberta prairie, the tall man rode up beside Slim. There was a chuckle in his voice, "Boy, that sod-buster got hooked. That broomtail isn't worth ten dollars, let alone twenty."

Back on the homestead of the Bright family though, Bill Bright and his two sons, Edgar and Wallace, had a different opinion. "When we get that long hair combed off him," said Bill, "and his mane and tail trimmed, he'll look a different animal. He has nice limbs."

That homesteader knew something about horses. In a matter of weeks the pony, Freddy, had turned into an animal of exceptional beauty. True he was small, only 14 hands high, but he was as white as clean snow, with a silky mane and tail, a beautifully shaped head and slender legs. More important, though spirited, he had gentled so fast that it was safe to place even Wallace, who was just five, up on his back.

Of course Wallace's rides were confined to the farmyard, but 12-year-old Edgar took Freddy all over the neighborhood. And that's how they found out.

MOST of the neighbor boys had ponies, too, and races were common. Freddy always won. No matter how long in the legs the other pony, or horse, happened to be, Freddy could practically double ground on him. The Brights decided to enter him in the pony race on the sports day in the nearest town.

In the early days during the summer, the settlers used to hold many small picnics, or sports days. No such gathering was complete without at least two horse races: one for ponies or small horses "14 hands and under," and a "free-for-all" for all sizes. At that first sports day, as in others that followed, Freddy made a clean sweep of both races, against the pick of the saddle horses from the surrounding country. With Edgar clinging like a burr to his back he was just a white streak away out in front.

There was something remarkable about that little white horse. Where did he get his phenomenal speed? No one really knew where he had come from. Even his shrewd former owner had obviously regarded the little pony as just another "cayuse." However, horsemen of the district, and a veterinarian examined Freddy and said

he showed many signs of good Arab breeding. It could be that he had been stolen from some ranch far to the south, or perhaps he was a throw-back to those first horses in America, the proud horses of the Conquistadores.

AFTER a few seasons of racing him close to home, the Brights began to take Freddy farther afield. Even though he came up against better bred horses, the story was always the same. Although he was past the age when running horses are at their peak, and Edgar had grown until Freddy was carrying a ridiculous weight for such a tiny horse, he continued to win and brought home hundreds of dollars in prize money.

It was Freddy's last race though, which really made him a legend. Close by the Bright farm there lived a rancher who took pride in his saddle stock. It was a thorn in the pride of this rancher that, for years, Freddy had outrun his best. In desperation he bought an English thoroughbred, a full-blooded race horse.

Carefully he trained this horse. When the local sports day came around he was sure he had a cinch. Onto the track pranced the tall thoroughbred, with an ex-jockey atop it, while close to the starting post stood the rancher, waving a handful of bills and daring anybody to bet on the pony. A few people, out of loyalty to Freddy, took him up; but for most of them, one look at the beautiful racer was enough. They kept their money in their pockets.

Excitement was high as the horses lined up. The ex-jockey had trouble controlling his fiery mount, which kept rearing and turning. Freddy, this time with Wallace on his back, was as quiet and well behaved as usual. Then they were off.

To the surprise of everybody, the white pony got away so fast that he left even the thoroughbred at the post. The lead he thus gained he held past the quarter mark and into the back stretch. Then the big horse settled down, and crept up on the pony foot by foot. Coming into the last turn, with Freddy on the inside, they were neck and neck. Down the home stretch they came, with 99 per cent of the crowd pulling for the game little Freddy. Groans were mixed with cheers, when the big thoroughbred went into the lead by half a length.

But Freddy had a big heart. A hundred yards from the finish line he came up even again. The ex-jockey lashed his mount with the whip. Wallace, who didn't have a whip, just talked and pleaded and half cried down along Freddy's neck. A few yards from the finish line, Freddy inched ahead to win by little more than a nose.

It was his last race. The Brights never put him on the track again. The elder Bright bought a business in the nearby village and sold all his horses, except Freddy, who soon had the run of the town. He lived to a happy old age, letting children ride him, without even a halter, and nudging at screen doors in the summertime for lumps of sugar.



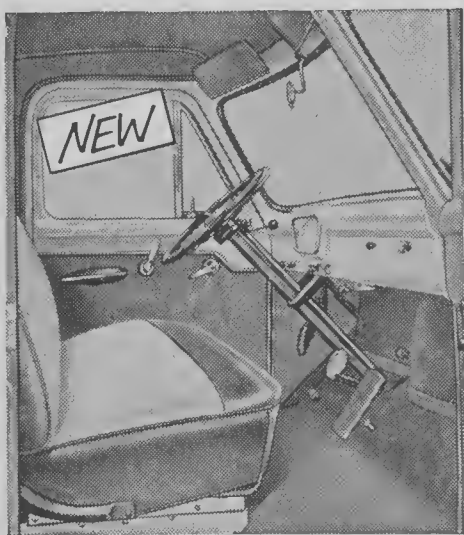
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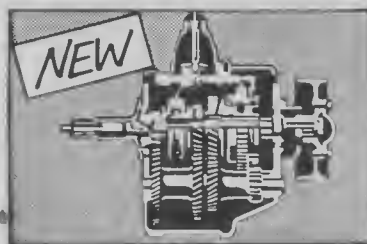
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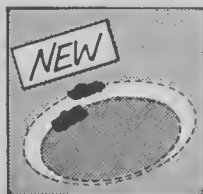
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## Time of Planting

Continued from page 8

Carlson looked up from his food. "Eh?" he queried. "Is the boy going some place tonight?"

Benny's face went down and his ears reddened.

"I don't know for sure," Mrs. Carlson said casually, "if he is or not. Anyway I got his clothes ready. There is a dance at the community hall tonight."

"Dance!" ejaculated Carlson. "Why should the boy go to a dance? We are farmers, not dervishes."

His wife turned her eyes upon him and, looking into them, he became instantly silent. He took a forkful of potatoes and chewed on them carefully.

"Of course," he said. "The wheat is in. It might be a good thing."

The meal was finished and Benny rose. They heard him take the steaming water kettle from the stove. There were sounds of vigorous splashing of water on the back porch.

"That Hilda Yenne," she said, "is a good girl. Tell him that he can use the car tonight, Papa." There was a worried look on Carlson's face.

"John Taber," he said, slowly, "has his own place. He has 200 acres of wheat. He is a powerful man—a vicious one. Perhaps Benny should not use the car, Mother."

Mrs. Carlson's mind went back many years. It had been spring and the planting of the wheat was finished. There had been her Carl and there had been another man. He, too,

had been strong, vicious, and eager for her.

"He will be all right," she said. "You should tell him that he can use the car tonight."

Carlson came to his feet and his bent shoulders straightened. And why not, he thought I have given him his wheat and he is now a man. He went to the back door and opened it. The boy was shaving, using his best razor. He did not chide him. Rather, his voice was kindly as he spoke.

"Check the gasoline in the car before you use it tonight, son," he said.

Benny turned his half shaven face toward him and nodded.

It was a beautiful night. The wheels ground out strange music on the roads. The frog chorus rose and fell in the lowlands. Benny's heart was light as he pulled into the Yenne yard. The lightness carried him halfway to the door. Then his knees began to tremble and he felt weak. He forced himself to go on. He mounted the porch, knocked on the door, and waited. Hilda Yenne opened it. She was a vision of loveliness. Her lips were full and red. Her eyes were blue and her hair the color of ripened wheat.

"I came early," he said awkwardly, "to ask you to the dance. I came early because—"

Somehow, words failed him. He cursed himself inwardly for being a fool. He had come early so that John Taber would not beat him there. There was no use in telling her this. She would know it and she would go with him or not, as she chose. She looked at the freshly scrubbed bigness of him and she smiled.

"I'm glad," she said simply. "It's none too early. I'll be ready in a minute. Come in, won't you."

Benny went into the comfortably big front room. Mr. Yenne lowered the paper that he was reading and looked at him over his glasses. He appraised him with a long, searching look.

"The wheat?" he asked. "Is it in?"

"Yes, Mr. Yenne," Benny said politely, "it is planted. Three hundred



"... And you, O'Toole, are to watch my visiting relatives and see that they don't wreck anything."

and ten acres of it. Otherwise I'd not be able to go to the dance."

"Humph," Yenne snorted. "Some folks dance whether the wheat is in or not. They are grasshoppers. John Taber leaves his hired hand to do the work. The fields are lumpy. There is yet much to do before they will be finished."

Mrs. Yenne smiled warmly at Benny.

"Be careful," she said, "and don't be out too late."

"But mother," protested Hilda,

coming into the room with her coat. "We won't want to leave before they play 'Home, Sweet Home.' We'll start back then."

"That will be all right," Mr. Yenne said, resuming his reading. "When they play 'Home, Sweet Home' it is time to return. It is the lingering beyond this that I do not like."

"That," said Benny, "is when we will leave. We had better be going now."

Far away, on the road that came from the town, Benny could see dust rising. That would be John Taber, he thought. He has left his fields half finished and has been to town to the barber shop. He will be nicely barbered and will smell of hair tonic and the witch hazel. He will be very angry when he finds that Hilda is gone.

The air of the hilltops was warm and sultry. It carried the strong smell of spring. Benny's blood warmed with it. It will be summer soon, he thought, and we will start watching for rain.

The yellowing of the stalks on the dry hills was a torture that Benny had known since babyhood. A sickly yellowing that came too soon. Not the golden color of harvest time, when the heads hung, ripe and full. It was a withering from lack of moisture, a heart wrenching thing.

He wanted to tell the girl of his good fortune, of his gift of the wheat. He knew that she would understand that he was now a man. He went at it obliquely.

"It will be a good season for rain," he said. "I feel that it will, for this is to be my lucky year. My wheat will need the rain."

She looked quickly at him. She was

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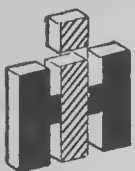
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only 18, but she had a look that told a man that she was ready. Ready to step across that infinite threshold of womanhood.

"Benny!" she exclaimed. "You've been given the wheat—your own acres. How grand! And you not 20 until September."

He was surprised that she knew his birth date. His mind dwelt on it.

"Yes," he said, looking directly at her. "I have my wheat. Ten acres of it this year for my courting money. Half the farm when I marry. That is the way it has always been with us."

She turned her face quickly away to hide the blush that came to her cheeks. The front wheel struck a hummock and the car lurched, throwing her against him. Her hair brushed his face and he felt the pounding of his heart. He feared that she would hear it.

Presently they came down through the soft darkness to the prairie hall. The round orb of the full moon thrust itself over the horizon. The thump of the guitars came down solidly on the wail of the violins. The music reached out and touched them with magic fingers.

"They have started already, Benny," Hilda said. "It is later than we thought."

As they moved through the stags at the door Benny halted and looked back over his shoulder. He could hear the approach of John Taber's car above the music.

It was a waltz and they moved onto the floor. She was a part of him. She moved when he moved. They didn't speak during the long waltz. When the music stopped he took her to a seat by the wall and bowed before her, as his mother had taught him to do. As she smiled up at him Bill Yonkers tapped him on the shoulder.

"Come outside, Benny," he said. "There's a man waiting to see you."

He straightened up and looked at Bill, feeling the muscles of his shoulders bunch, knowing that the time had come. His face whitened with the thought and he strove to keep his voice level.

"Yes, Bill," he said. "I'll go with you now."

They walked out together. He had known Bill all his life. He held no resentment against him. This was as it had always been before. The young bulls fought on the range in the spring and the wheat fought with the weeds and the weather. The rains came or they didn't. The weak wheat shriveled in its milk with the drought while the strong filled its golden heads. The Carlsons did not use the shriveled wheat for seed.

He went out into the cool night, seeing the group gathered. The news had spread quickly, as it always did. They were waiting to see how the contest would go. Their nerves were tense with excitement. For the moment, they were no longer farmers and the sons of farmers. They were a bloodthirsty mob, waiting for the best man to win, knowing that it would be John Taber.

Benny walked up to the men as the fear slowly mounted to his throat. He stood and looked around, his thin face thrust forward on his strong neck. The moon was fully up and he could clearly see their faces. They were looking at him with awe and with pity. He was not yet 20, yet he had dared to

bring Hilda Yenne to the dance. John Taber had made his drive for nothing. It had made him look foolish. John Taber did not like to look foolish. He had indicated to the community that Hilda was his girl. He was very angry.

He stepped toward Benny now. His step was as silent as that of a stalking cat. He was a big man, bigger than Benny, with bull-like shoulders and a craggy jaw beneath a blunt nose and black eyes.

"Get going, Carlson," he said, and his voice was hoarse and ugly. "I'm taking Hilda home."

Fear raged against Benny's body, urging him to turn and obey. He stood there and looked at Taber as he tried to fight it down. The onlookers' eyes latched on his face, wondering what his guts were like, not wanting to be in his shoes, knowing the power of John Taber. Then he thought of the gift of the wheat and what it meant. It was his father's way of telling him that he was now a man, with all a man's strength and courage, with a



*Jerky tried  
To strike it rich,  
And plow that last  
Round by the ditch.  
—Beth Wilcoxson.*

man's right to choose his girl and court her. Suddenly the fear was gone from him and his arms were loose and limber. His hands hung like weighty pendulums at his sides. He was strongly conscious of them and he closed his hands into fists. He was a quiet and gentle man. He had never hated John Taber. He had never hated anyone. But now he had a savage urge to leap forward and smash those sneering lips.

"I brought her here, John," he said, "and I'll take her home."

Taber's bellow was a frightful thing to hear in the night. It rose above the pounding of the guitars, the wail of the violins. In the hall, dancing with old man Johnson, Hilda Yenne heard the sound. She shuddered and she missed a step in the polka. Then she went on. She could only wait.

Taber came in fast, reaching for Benny with his powerful hands. Benny drove his fist between the hands and felt a giving of the man's lips. A wave of exultation flowed through his body and he leaped away, circling, striking again and again. Taber's face was an ugly mask and blood dribbled from his mouth as Benny's back struck a car fender. Taber caught his shirt front in his grip. He jerked the smaller man to him and the sighing of an outbursting of held breath came from the spectators. Taber threw himself down and rolled as he fell. He was on top, latched on Benny's throat with one hand while he drove down with the other. Benny wrenched his head around and took the mallet-like blow on the side of his face. He heaved up convulsively, throwing Taber over his head.

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He rolled and came to his feet. The two men met like two maddened beasts. Taber was cursing and shouting. Benny fought silently. His long face was still. He weaved under his attacker's reaching hands, driving his fist with all his strength. Taber straightened, his face racked with pain. Benny stepped back. His blow was like the quick flashing of a saber. The work-hardened knuckles met the craggy jawbone with a dull "thwack." Taber fell on his face.

Benny stood and looked down at him. His breath came in great gasps and his chest heaved. His necktie was askew. There was a swelling lump on the side of his face. He looked slowly around at the silent men. For a moment it seemed that he was about to lower his head and charge into them. The music from the hall rose and fell like the beating of jungle drums. Then the men started to move away, started to back off. The wildness slowly left his eyes and he



"Gee Pop! I'll bet he could tell a bigger fish story than you."

reached up with a fumbling hand and straightened his tie. Then he went back into the hall.

Hilda was sitting on the bench at the far wall. She watched him walk across the floor. She saw the swelling on his face and the rumpled clothing, and she knew that he had fought and that he had won. Her chin came up and she smiled at him while the tenseness went away.

CARL CARLSON looked across the breakfast table at his wife. He was in a grumpy mood. She met his glance and there was something of merriment in her eyes.

"The boy came in late," he complained. "Too late. It was three o'clock. I knew all along that we shouldn't have let him have the car."

She smiled at him as though he were a little boy who had been unable to get his lessons.

"How did it happen," she asked, "that you heard him when he came in? You're such a sound sleeper."

He looked sheepish. He strove to find an excuse for his wakefulness, not wanting her to know that he could be disturbed by such trifles.

"In the spring," he said, "the range bulls fight. They kept me awake with their bellowing."

The woman cocked an ear to the bedroom.

"He's getting ready," she said, "to come to breakfast."

Benny came from his room. He went out on the rear porch and washed his face in the basin. He examined it closely in the mirror. There was a swelling at the side, where he had met John Taber's fist. It seemed so long

ago, so much a part of the past that he felt himself surprised that the bruise was still there. It was a sickly, purplish yellow color. He hated to go in to breakfast. He had never slept late before, leaving the chores for his father to do. He felt ashamed, but somehow his gladness was too great to let it linger. He walked into the dining room and took his place silently.

They both saw the great bruise at once. Carlson looked down at his plate. The bulls, he thought, were not the only beasts that fought last night.

They ate breakfast without conversation, although Mrs. Carlson tried to bring about light chatter. Benny gulped down his oatmeal and coffee. Then he got up and went to stand before the window. He looked out over the fields. He was surprised to see that his ten acres was slightly green in the slanting morning sun.

"Look!" he half shouted into the silence of the room. "My wheat—it will be a good crop."

His father got up hastily, grateful for the diversion.

"Yes, son," he said. "The grain will grow strong with the sun. It will make 20 bushels."

He glanced sideways at the blue and yellow bruise.

"You're a man now," he said. "You'll need some money of your own."

He paused and glanced at his wife.

"Perhaps," he added, "you will have a greater share later."

It was more of a question than a statement. It hung in the room for long moments, unanswered. Mrs. Carlson sat quietly. Her friendly, patient face was calm and composed, but beneath the table her hands were squeezed together until the fingers whitened with the pressure. Benny turned slowly and looked his father squarely in the eyes. The youthful grey eyes met the pale, blue eyes of the older man and the son gave the father a slow grin.

"Yes," he said, "I'll be wanting more next year. Hilda and I will be married come harvest time."

"John Taber?" Carlson's query was soft and his eyes gleamed.

"Poof," snorted Mrs. Carlson. "Hilda is the daughter of a good farmer. She would have no doings with a man who leaves his fields lumpy."

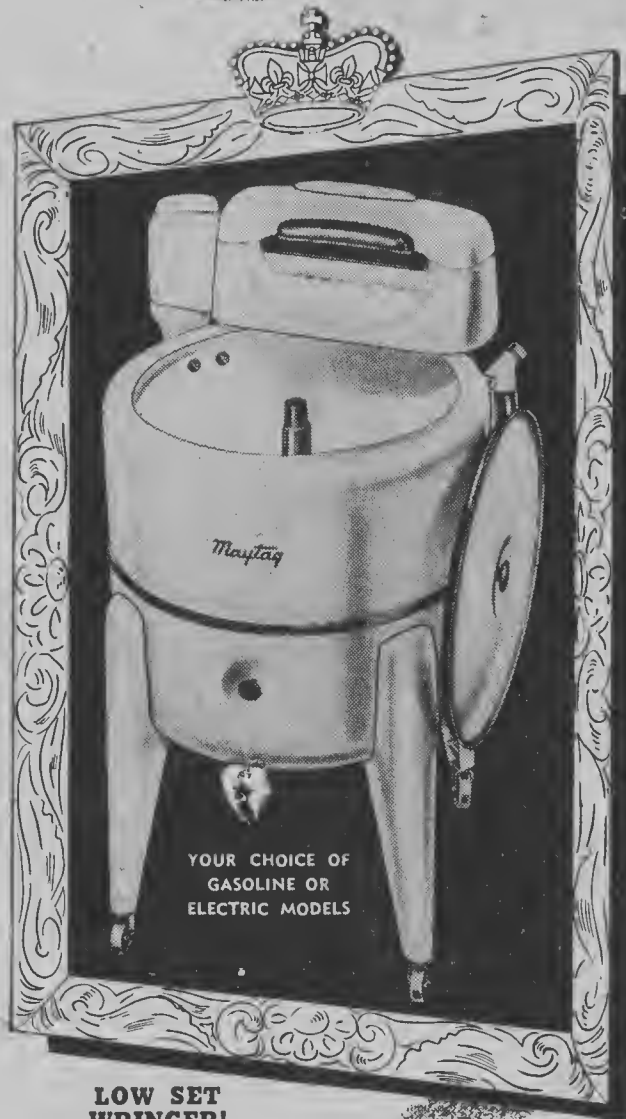
Carlson's shoulders suddenly straightened and the years seemed to fall away from him. He thought of the wheat and of the black land that brought it to fruition. Not until this moment had he fully realized how great had been the burden of worry that he bore—fearing the lack of Carlson's heirs to carry on the work. Carl, Jr., had harvested his wheat four times, but he had not married, and Hobart had harvested his two seasons. Both of those sturdy sons had been taken from him. Only this one remained—history could well repeat itself. The Carlson acres could not go down through the years, bringing forth abundant crops, without a Carlson at the plow.

"I told you, Mother," he said, taking the credit to himself, as men have done down through the centuries, "that we should let the boy have the car last night. We are to have a fine daughter and many grandchildren. It is a good thing."

Mrs. Carlson smiled happily at him with her wise eyes.

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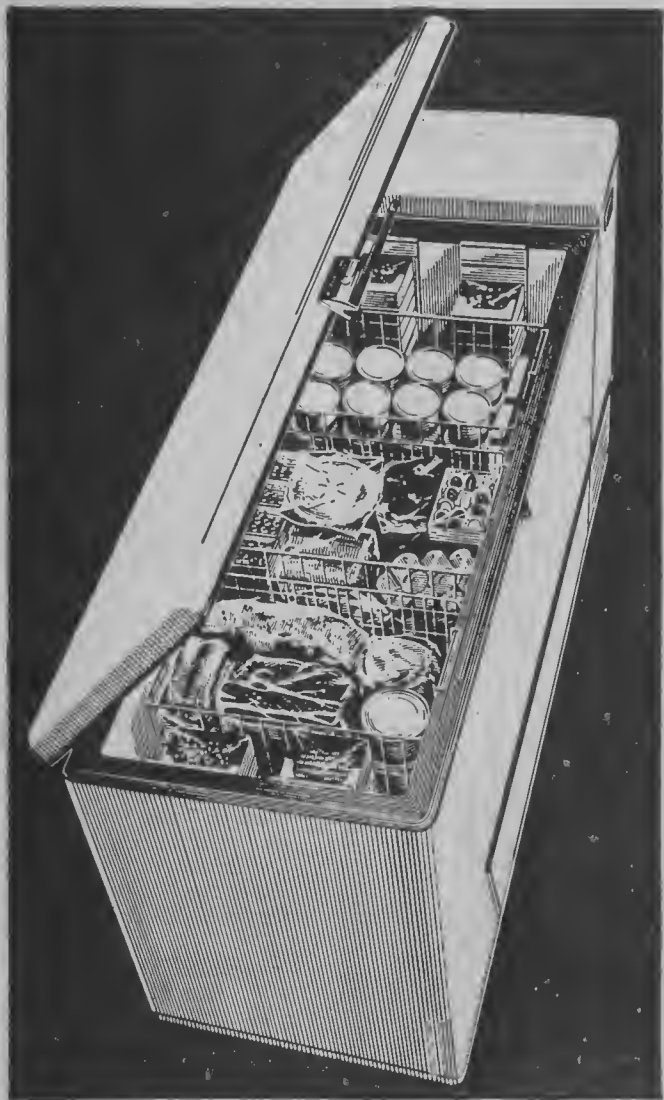
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# The Countrywoman

## Women's Interest in Politics

**I**N order to gather material for articles and background information, staff writers of The Country Guide spend much time and effort in traveling, attending meetings, making personal visits and conducting interviews. To keep abreast with movements, changing thought, progress and events pertaining to the many and varied interests of rural people in our region—the prairies, is a fair-sized job, shared by our editorial staff members. It may, on occasion, be necessary to go further afield in Canada or to another country, in order to achieve a proper perspective, a keen appreciation of things Canadian: our national viewpoint, progress or policy.

Sometimes an idea for a "story" of interest to our readers, figuratively walks right into the editorial office. Or it may be that a visitor with a significant experience or message stops off in our home city and speaks to local groups. Or a national conference may bring leaders of thought to our community, thus affording further insight into matters which are both timely and of vital concern to all Canadians. Such happy experiences have come during recent weeks.

On August 10 Canadians will go to polling booths to elect those members who will determine the government of Canada for the next four years. During May we had the opportunity of hearing Mme. H. E. Vautelet, of Montreal, speak on the importance of women interesting themselves in politics, especially at the local level, working on committees, helping choose the candidates and being able to state clearly to themselves, why they support a particular party.

**T**HE text of the message of this charming and witty speaker was, that while women in groups and organizations study politics and questions of the day—too industrious study may merely mean avoiding the necessity of action. She cautioned against the ineffectuality of the "scattered voice—the floating vote." Know why you belong to any given party, and understand its platform. You cannot sell an idea to others until it is clarified in your own mind. As well as knowing the ingredients that go into a cake and how they are mixed, women should know the things and methods which go into the making of an elective organization. The party-member's job is to serve the party—but not to deify it. The party is a service to the people. Through it the members should advise and instruct their elected representative. Some of the burdens should be taken off the shoulders of the candidate, while he serves us. Women should be interested and have influence with political parties. The best possible way to influence a government is to exert influence on the party.

Mme. Vautelet warned against the tendency to delegate power to government. "You can be protected to the extent of losing your freedom. Protection destroys the human moral fibre, that democracy is trying to build. A corporation is healthy, only when each shareholder will delegate as little as possible responsibility." She also warned against parties which promise relief from all of man's burdens. To remove incentives is to remove the necessity of action. Our citizenship lacks the color and warmth it should have, if we do not actively interest ourselves in politics, in leaders and policies.

In marriage and in the home, the woman is usually regarded as a mature partner. She is understanding and diplomatic, smoothing things out, winning the co operation and support of others. In politics in this country, women are generally regarded as being immature and incapable of carrying responsibilities. "Women must rid themselves of inherited attitudes, emotions and instincts of the harem. We must look at ourselves objectively and rid ourselves of these undesirable inherited characteristics. Jealousy among women breeds disunity and destroys the political success of those who have risen above it. We deplore the fact that where there are women, making their first political venture or

## Interest in timely subjects revealed through the experience and views of two women visitors—one a Canadian and the other from the Orient

by AMY J. ROE

winning their first success, other women do not support them or actually pull them down."

Coming of a family, long distinguished in law and politics in Quebec, Mme. Vautelet, now in her middle fifties, has managed to fill her life with many interests and activities. In 1942 she was awarded the C.B.E. for "leadership in war and charitable work." She was founder and president of the French children's library, also of Quebec's first social service bureau; vice-president of the Women's Voluntary Service of Montreal; chairman of the Red Cross Society stock department. She was one of two women on the Wartime Savings Committee and the only woman member on Quebec's postwar planning council. She campaigned for women's suffrage in Quebec; was president of the Montreal Liberal Club and national secretary for the Liberal Women's Federation of Canada. During World War II, she ran her husband's brokerage business for six years.

She is now national vice-president of the Canadian Association of Consumers. She has been a keen and serious student of Canadian history, particularly of early French and English periods. Her talk to the Women's Canadian Club of Winnipeg on "The Unknown North America" was as fascinating as that given on politics. She greatly deplores the gaps in the knowledge and understanding of the history of Canada, among both French and English-speaking Canadians.

## New Canadian

*I saw her on the street,  
A motley street of springtime fashion  
And she was there, alone,  
In sombre clothes,  
Remote as of another world.  
The lines of labors fortitude were deep  
On the brown passive face,  
Coiffed with a shawl.  
Only strength was left in the high flange of cheek  
And vision of new years  
In eyes becalmed and proud.  
Alien she was to us, but in her passing,  
I saw the greening earth of freedom's far flung toil  
And heard the echo of my heart's salute;  
This land of ours! This Canada! This soil!*

—CHARLOTTE BOUCHER.

## A Visitor from Formosa

**Q**UITE a different and amazing story of changes in women's status, within the lifetime of a comparatively young woman, was revealed in interviews and talks by Mrs. Yen Fu, on a visit to Winnipeg, during the last week of June. Mrs. Yen Fu, a widow with two teen-age daughters, the elder studying chemistry at an American university, and the younger at a boarding school in Ottawa, is on a cross-Canada tour, made possible by a United Nations Fellowship. She is here to observe welfare services, particularly as they affect children.

She was born in northern China and received early education at home from a tutor. She is a graduate in Arts from Tientsin University, later took a course in political science at Peking, then

studied Law at the University of Washington, Seattle (1930-32) and Municipal Government at the University of California. She has held a number of positions in teaching and social administration. is head of an orphanage for 68 children; editor of a monthly magazine serving women's special interests and the only woman editor on a paper "Democracy and Constitution," which is often dropped by air to the Chinese mainland.

Twice, she and her daughters have fled before the advancing Communists, leaving all their possessions behind them. In 1951 they fled to Taiwan (the island of Formosa, as we know it), some 90 miles off the southern mainland. She is one of three women members in the 36-member Central Legislature, and is now serving her second term.

"There was no freedom of choice for the women in either marriage or education in China 40 years ago," said Mrs. Yen Fu. "Now there is freedom in both. Many women have entered the professions, as teachers, nurses, some as lawyers and doctors. Others have opened their own shops. Since 1928, Chinese daughters may inherit property from parents. Ten years ago the constitution was amended and by a statute passed shortly afterwards, it was approved that ten per cent of the legislative members should be women. But ways are found to skirt these requirements and it has worked out that about nine per cent of the legislative members are women. There have been 40 women elected to sit in Chinese legislatures."

"Though by law, women's rights have been made equal to those of men, custom and common practice conspire to work against these reforms. Under the old family regime, with the heads supreme, women lived and suffered in silence. Now single women, widows and divorced wives may work and earn their own living. We have no laws to protect children. Child welfare is a big social field in China. We have too, a serious problem of housing, in part due to the crowding in of refugees."

Two statements made by Mrs. Yen Fu, struck her listeners forcibly: "There is no problem of the young unmarried mother in China: There is no problem of chronic alcoholism—many Chinese men drink wine, but seldom get intoxicated. A drunken man, who may get mixed up in a brawl is taken off to jail but his sentence is not severe. Rather the authorities pursue the man who sold the liquor and his punishment is harder. The poor working man cannot afford to buy wine—instead he munches roasted peanuts."

**T**AIWAN, was the name officially given by the Japanese when they acquired Formosa in 1895. In 1942 the island and Korea were formally designated as integral parts of Japan proper and to be no longer colonies. Unfortunately our visitor did not elaborate and bring us up to date on its present status but simply referred to it as "a rich province of China—the only one with a stable government at the present. It has a population of some eight million—crowded with a further three million refugees." The climate is tropical and some crops are harvested two or three times a year. The main crops are: rice, sugar cane, jute, sweet potatoes, beans and ground nuts. A new system of land division has been put into effect to bring about the best possible use of all land for the greatest possible increase in crop production.

Asked what the Chinese women liked to read in a magazine, she replied: "All kinds of features; politics, child and family care, articles on food and recipes. We do not carry fashions. Women like to read fiction. The young girls like what might be called 'heart-throb' stories. I think that women are greatly interested in all topics pertaining to politics."

In view of Mrs. Yen Fu's choice and pursuit of studies, surely a most fitting preparation for understanding government and its functions; in light of her own personal and of China's experience for the past 18 or 20 years, we can understand and sympathize with her firm belief that politics, parties and government are matters of vital concern to women.

# Salads Cool and Tasty

**B**E it noon or evening, a hearty salad will take your mind off the heat. It will contribute to a mealtime pause that lifts you out of the doldrums. There was a time when salads were dependent on the limited choice of home produce. Today, with advances in refrigeration and transportation variety from the whole of this continent is within our reach.

The salads I like best are the ones which are not too fussy nor too fussed over. Use good chunky bite-sized pieces, recognizable as salmon, tomato, tuna, ham, chicken, egg, joined together with a good dressing.

I dislike too small choppings of lettuce or tomato that become wilted and wet before they reach the table. Small snippings of vegetables for added flavor are an exception. Keep lettuce in fairly large pieces, crisp to crunch, and you'll not shred it again.

French dressing and mayonnaise, purchased ready to use, are popular. They may also be made at home. Boiled dressing is an old favorite. Our recipe makes a quart. Honey dressing seems at its best with a fruits-in-season salad.

Full of zip, salads rise to any occasion. They pep up lunch, supper, party, or snack. Know a few basic recipes, and vary these to suit whatever you have on hand. The same salad makings with a new dressing, or a new garnish taste different. Try

*Suggestions for good combinations, new flavor contrasts, the use of fresh, crisp products with garnishes for color, and dressing for taste*

by MARION KAVALEC

Salads are now recognized for their nutritive value. The health rule is: "Two raw fruits or vegetables a day." Science tells us that the minerals, vitamins, and "alkaline reserves" we need are found in fruit and vegetables. Salads served raw are excellent from the health standpoint. Cooking and long soaking in water destroy some of the vitamins.

All the colors of the garden are at hand to blend amongst the green. Lettuce, and other leafy greens gathered in the cool of the day will be crisp and succulent. Young raw spinach or tender beet tops used with lettuce, offer a pleasant contrast in color and flavor. All are good sources of Vitamin A. Wash, drain, and chill the greens before starting a salad. Tear lettuce, spinach

scrape, or chop, slice, cube, dice or quarter, do put the emphasis on a variety of shapes and sizes. They should be clean, crisp, and firm. To separate head lettuce into cups, cut out the core, then run cold water into the opening. Drain. A linen towel will absorb stubborn water that might keep oil dressing from adhering to the leaves. Let the vegetable stand in salt water (one tablespoon of salt to each quart) to get rid of any possible insects.

When the salad makes the meal it should be substantial and satisfying, with plenty of protein or energy food added. If it contains

another; molded salmon or tuna, plus the tossed spinach salad, and tasty accompaniments. Swiss cheese in slices, cheddar cheese, sliced or shredded directly into a salad, or cut into ½-inch cubes, speared on a toothpick complete with olive, pickle or pineapple. (3) The ready-to-eat meats are thrifty, for there's no waste in them. They are very easy to serve. Corned beef, canned pork meats, home-canned beef or chicken, luncheon meats, ham, garlic sausage or the mild varieties, vie for your choice. You will find that ½ to ¾-pound of cold meats serves four amply. A six-pound chicken yields about 4 cups of cold meat to serve eight or ten people.

Good appetizers, served before a meal, with a sandwich, or as "nibblers" are, crisp celery sticks, plain or stuffed with cheese, pineapple spears or chunks, and carrot curls, all straight from the refrigerator. Wash

and flute a cucumber then cut it into thin slices for dunking in sour cream dip, given among the recipes. Cauliflower broken

into flowerets or sliced thinly into fans may also be dipped in this sauce.

The small salad jelled or plain, served with a meal gives just the right touch of summer through its color. Never apologize for leftovers that go into a salad. In fact, a very good habit to acquire is the "look before you keep" attitude. As you clear the table and put away leftovers, decide how best to use them at the earliest possible meal. A few carrots, less than a cup of peas, beans or fruit, the last remnants of Sunday's roast, a bit of fish, are perfect salad ingredients. Add greens and mix together with a tasty dressing. Combine those that go together in a gelatin salad. Your tomorrow's salad can then have a flair. Garnish salads belong on a dinner plate, tucked into a lettuce cup or in a help-yourself bowl. A small portion with a sharp dressing is sufficient. Served with a more generous hand, this type of salad rates a plate of its own.

When you have visitors, or the Ladies' Aid meets at your house, an easy menu features a party salad, dainty, pretty and tasty. A fresh fruit plate comes into its own accompanied by your best hotbreads, tiny muffins, or apricot bread. Follow with dainty tarts, small cookies and cakes, and tea.

At an outdoor party even the ladies like more substantial fare. Try a chicken salad in lettuce cups and lime delight spooned into paper baking cups. Add a few carrot curls, or radish roses. Use the prettier paper plates in pastel colors for a garden party touch. For dessert is there anything that surpasses delicate angel food cake and ice cream?



*Tossed green salad topped with refreshing cottage cheese is cool looking and delicious.*

and other greens into fairly large pieces. To prevent wilting, toss with a dressing at the very last moment.

Don't overlook the contribution of a little parsley, green onion, chives, scallions, fern-like dill and later dill seed, caraway, celery seed, sesame. They're just as good in a salad as pickles. Spices too, point up a salad: cayenne, chili powder, a dash of mustard, Worcestershire sauce or tabasco. Only fresh spices are worth using; once they lose their pungency they are not worth keeping.

**V**EGETABLES may be cleaned many ways, but a vegetable brush takes less time, and cleans thoroughly, getting into the crevices and hollows, seeking out stray grains of sand and earth. Whether you pare, mince,

meat, fish, poultry or eggs, it will satisfy. Try potato salad with Frankfurt broil. Split skinless wieners lengthwise, insert a strip of processed cheddar cheese, then wind bacon around. Broil about three inches from the top oven element, the door remaining open.

Bologna cups perk up a salad plate. Use thin slices and a spoonful of well-seasoned cottage cheese and chives, or potato salad on each. Draw up the opposite sides and secure with a toothpick, topped with a pickled onion. Arrange alternate slices of bologna, cucumber and tomato wedges on the plate.

A buffet tray arrangement almost plans itself. (1) Feature chicken salad, a contrasting tossed green salad in a wooden bowl. For variety and satisfaction have a tray of hard-cooked eggs in rings, wedges or halves, plain or devilled, relishes, pickles. (2) For



the twin salad plate idea, with a feature salad and a compliment to repeat or contrast flavor and texture. Potato salad makes a very good plate companion to vegetable salads tossed or jelled. It is good with meats, cheeses, thick slices of raw tomato, cucumber, onion. Serve potato salad spooned onto the plate, or chill in a square pan and cut into squares, or a pie pan and cut in wedges. Cottage cheese is a wonderful "twin" to round out either a fruit or vegetable plate. With tomatoes and cottage cheese, sour cream may take the place of dressing. Add chives if you wish. Sweetened creamy cottage cheese nestles in a ring of fruit of the season. Packaged potato chips, crisp and salty, are a welcome touch on any salad plate.



Now and then a picnic grows into a crowd. With a real crowd, try to think in terms of "40 people . . . that's five times eight." It becomes less terrifying that way. Keep an accurate check on serving portions. Don't be overgenerous with the early comers and run out before everyone has eaten.

For crisp, green salads, carry the ingredients and mix at the picnic. Potato and macaroni salads may be carried in large pans. Waxed, frozen food cartons carry salads well. Gelatin salads may be prepared ahead and taken out in the chilling dish, but remember they will melt on a warm day. Increasing the gelatin prolongs the standing period.

Let garnishes add the chef's touch to your salads. They intrigue the palate rather than satisfy the appetite. Small grape clusters which have been

brushed with egg white and dipped in granulated sugar are supreme on a fruit plate or with chicken salad. Salmon or tuna gets a real flavor lift from a wedge of lemon ready to squeeze. Ripe olives or carrot disks are good with a creamy tuna or chicken salad. Toasted almonds added last to chicken salad are extra-special.

Cheese balls go with fruit salads when they are dipped in walnuts, with vegetables when dipped in grated carrot or chopped parsley. Marshmallows dipped in hot milk, then rolled in tinted or toasted coconut are fruit-salad fare. Grapefruit, orange, citrus fruits: cut off skin and membrane with a stainless steel knife, then cut against the dividing membrane walls to free each segment. Cut watermelon or cantaloupe in half onto paper, spoon out all the seeds and scrape the mem-

brane away. Cut into wedges or smaller pieces. Lemon or lime juice enhances their flavor.

#### Honey Salad Dressing

½ c. honey	1 egg
1 tsp. salt	½ c. vinegar
1 T. cornstarch	1 c. light cream
½ tsp. dry mustard	

Combine ingredients in top of double boiler. Heat gently. If curdling should begin beat smooth with egg beater. Cook, stirring, about 30 minutes until well thickened. Keeps well in refrigerator. Makes 10 ounces.

#### Potato Salad

8 potatoes	2 stalks celery, diced
3 hard-cooked eggs	1 c. salad dressing
5 green onions, scissored fine	1 tsp. salt
	½ tsp. pepper

Boil potatoes, in skins if you like, a day or two ahead. Chill thoroughly in re-

frigerator. Dice. Mix salad dressing, salt, pepper, onion. Add celery, chopped eggs and potatoes. Toss carefully until blended. Chill several hours to blend flavors. Makes 2 quarts.

#### Salmon or Tuna Salad

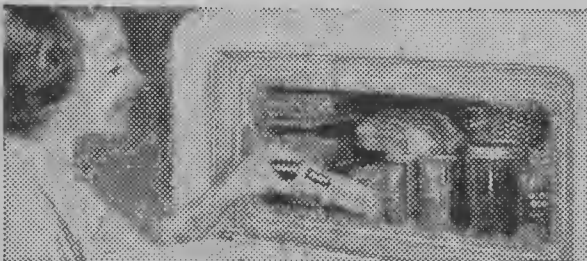
Serves 50.

8 T. gelatin	6 c. cooked salad dressing or mayonnaise
2 c. cold water	
8 c. tuna or salmon	½ c. small pickled beets
4 c. celery chopped	4 tsp. salt
4 green peppers, finely chopped	2 tsp. paprika
	½ c. mild vinegar

Soften gelatin in cold water. Dissolve over boiling water and add to remaining ingredients. Turn into flat pan or loaf pan that has been rinsed in cold water. To serve arrange slices of salad on lettuce and garnish with thin slices of tomato or thin green pepper rings and slice of lemon. Serves 50 3-ounce servings.

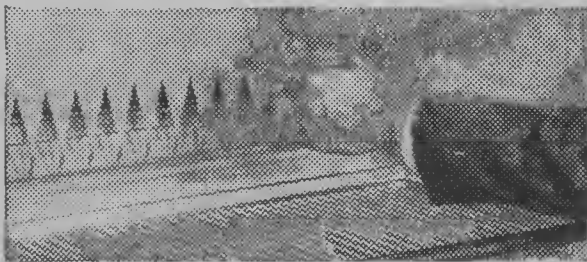
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This big food freezer is completely separate—completely insulated—with its own cold-making system. Keeps all food fresh and firm for months at a time in zero-zone safety.



#### NEW IDEAS in defrosting . . .

Only Frigidaire has Cycla-matic Defrosting—simplest of all defrosting methods. Exclusive Refrig-o-plate cools refrigerator. Frost on Refrig-o-plate is banished before it collects, without adding heat.

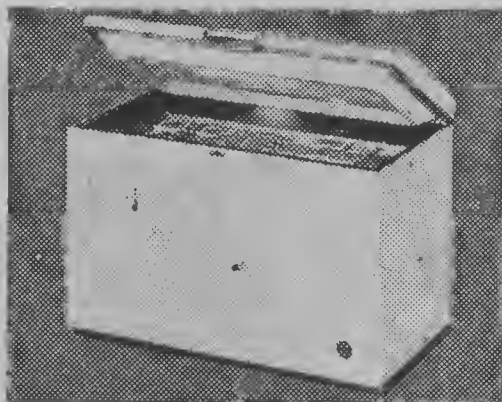
#### NEW IDEAS in convenience . . .

All shelves roll out on nylon rollers. All foods at finger tips. No more fumbling with back-of-shelf food. There are shelves on the door and two big Hydrators for fruit and vegetables.



Cycla-matic Model D5-106

## Frigidaire Appliances for the Farm Home



**New Frigidaire Food Freezers** are available in two sizes—322 lbs. and 462 lbs. capacity. Both have new convenience features, new beauty. Plus a constant flow of safe cold, from Frigidaire's famous Meter-Miser, to protect your own good frozen foods, month after month!



**New Two-Oven Range . . .** a "natural" for the farm home because it gives you *two* big ovens in addition to other large-capacity Frigidaire 40-inch range features. Has Cook-Master Automatic Oven Control and other advantages, yet this Model RS-28 costs less than many *one* oven ranges!

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Food Freezers • Automatic Washer  
Electric Water Heaters • Air Conditioners  
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Visit your Frigidaire Dealer next time you're in town. Or write for free folders on the appliances in which you are interested. Address Frigidaire Products of Canada Limited, Scarborough, (Toronto 13), Ontario.



## "You mean to say there's cream in this powdered milk?"

"Why yes, Mary. It's easy to tell it isn't powdered skim milk like so many of the others."

"Oh, my. I thought all powdered milks were the same."

"Not on your life! Why, my youngsters notice right away if I use other powdered milks—say they aren't rich and creamy like Klim."

"Oh, look, here on the label—it says Klim is pasteurized *whole* milk in powder form. *That's* what makes the difference."

"As I said, Mary, Borden's Klim has the *cream* in it. I wouldn't be without it. So easy to store, and it stays fresh for weeks after you've opened the can."

"But is it economical?"

"Heavens yes! Why, one pound

makes over three quarts of nourishing fresh milk for drinking or cooking. And the 2½ and 5 pound tins are even more economical. Klim mixes so easily, too—just add it to water and beat."

"Well, it certainly sounds wonderful. I'm going to try some right away."

Trade Marks Reg'd.



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### Boiled Salad Dressing

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 2½ c. milk            | 1 tsp. salt         |
| ½ c. granulated sugar | 3 eggs, well beaten |
| ½ c. flour            | ½ c. vinegar (mild) |
| 1 tsp. dry mustard    |                     |

In the top of a double boiler heat 2 c. milk to a boil. Combine dry ingredients to which add the remaining ½ c. cold milk; stir to a smooth paste. Gradually stir into the hot milk, cook until thickened. Pour over beaten eggs, stirring; then return to double boiler. Cook until thick and stiff. Stir in vinegar and cook a few more minutes. Pour into clean pint jars. Store in refrigerator. Makes 2 pints.

### Hearty Ham and Potato

- |                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 c. potato salad                  | 1 c. cooked peas    |
| 1½ c. diced cooked ham or ham loaf | ¼ c. minced celery  |
| 1 c. celery, diced                 | ¼ c. salad dressing |

Combine ham, vegetables and boiled dressing. Chill. Add potato salad just before serving.

### Lime Delight

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 pkg. lime jelly powder       | 1 c. cottage cheese                     |
| 1½ c. hot water                | ¾ c. chopped walnuts or shredded carrot |
| 1 T. lemon juice               | 8 to 10 slices ham, if desired          |
| 1 15-oz. tin crushed pineapple |   |
| 2 T. sugar                     |   |

Dissolve lime jelly powder in hot water. Add lemon juice and crushed pineapple. (For speedier setting chill fruit beforehand.) Cool until slightly thickened. Arrange cheese balls within salad, one per serving. Chill until firm. Serve on lettuce with salad dressing, ham slices alongside. Instead of pineapple, ½ c. coarsely grated carrot and ¼ c. finely shredded cabbage may be used. Serves 8 to 10.

**Cheese Balls:** Sweeten cottage cheese, adding cream if too dry. Drop by spoonfuls into finely chopped walnut or shredded raw carrot.

### Rainbow Fruit Plate

- |                               |                                       |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2 c. cottage cheese           | 1 c. strawberries, washed and drained |
| ½ tsp. Worcestershire sauce   | 1 red apple                           |
| ½ tsp. salt                   | 2 large oranges                       |
| ½ tsp. lemon juice            | ½ melon, pared, cut in wedges         |
| 1 large head lettuce, in cups |                                       |

Season cottage cheese with Worcestershire sauce, salt and lemon juice. Heap in lettuce cups on pretty individual plates. Garnish with fresh strawberries. Alternate slices of apple, orange segments, melon wedges around the cheese. Serve with honey fruit dressing. Serves 6.

### Lettuce Spinach Salad

- |                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 1 head lettuce | 2 hard-cooked eggs     |
| ½ lb. spinach  | 1 c. sour cream, thick |
| 1 tsp. salt    |                        |
| ½ tsp. pepper  |                        |
| 2 T. vinegar   |                        |

Chill and tear raw young spinach into fork-size pieces, removing ribs and stems. Tear lettuce. Add salt, pepper, chopped egg to half sour cream. Chill. Just before serving fold in spinach and lettuce and remaining sour cream. Serves 5 to 6.

### Chicken Salad

- |                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 c. cooked chicken      | 1 T. horseradish               |
| 1½ c. diced celery       | ½ c. chopped sweet pickle      |
| ½ c. sliced cucumber     | 4 hard-cooked eggs, in eighths |
| ½ green peppers, chopped | 1 c. salad dressing            |
|                          | Salt and pepper                |

Mix together all but the dressing. Add dressing, toss to coat lightly. Chill thoroughly. Serve in lettuce cups. Serves 8. (For party add ½ c. toasted almonds just before serving.)

### Sour Cream Cheese Dip

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 3-oz. pkg. cream cheese | Dash tabasco sauce        |
| 1 tsp. minced green onion | Dash Worcestershire sauce |
| Salt                      | Sour cream                |

To the cheese add the other ingredients. Blend with fork or whip until  
(Continued on page 50)



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**BABY'S OWN TABLETS**



# Jelly-Making Time

Jellies and jams made now will add a touch of summer to winter meals

by LILLIAN VIGRASS



Clear, shimmering jellies will taste extra good this winter.

WHEN the berries begin to ripen on the bushes and the crates of fruit arrive in the stores the homemaker begins to plan for her winter supply of jams and jellies.

To make fruits or berries jell it is necessary to have the right proportions of fruit and sugar, acid and pectin. Fruits high in pectin and with some acid will jell easily. Fruits low in pectin must be concentrated by boiling until they set. Fruits with a low acid content, such as pears, peaches and raspberries, will jell more easily if the juice of a lemon is added.

Some fruits, such as sweet plums, raspberries, saskatoons, chokecherries and over-ripe fruit of every type have so little pectin that it is impossible to make a clear, firm jelly from the juice of any one of them alone. In olden days the juice of a high-pectin fruit, such as apples or crabapples, was added. Today, if there is any doubt about the ability of a fruit to jell, a commercial pectin is added.

The pectin, whether bottled or in crystal form, ensures success with any fruit juice—if the manufacturer's instructions are followed *exactly*. They require only one minute of boiling and result in a clear and shimmering jelly that has the delicate full flavor of the fresh fruit.

Actually, jellies made with commercial pectin are not expensive. More sugar is used per cup of juice but the resulting amount of jelly means there is less sugar in each glass of jelly. Less fruit juice is required per glass, too, than when the juice is boiled and concentrated to the jelly stage.

Rapid concentration is assured if no more than six to eight cups of juice are cooked in a large kettle at a full rolling boil. After three minutes start testing for the jelly stage. At first the juice will run from a metal spoon in thin and watery drops, then several drops will form together. Then these drops will form into one—a sheet forms. This is the jelly stage—and time to remove the jelly from the heat.

## Current Jelly

To prepare juice add about  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. water to each pound of fruit. If fruit is very juicy, no water is necessary. At least  $\frac{1}{4}$  of fruit must be under ripe. Mash, cook

fruit until tender—15 to 20 minutes. Extract juice by draining through jelly bag. Taste juice to see that it is as acid as a tart apple; if not, add a little lemon juice. Measure juice and sugar allowing 1 c. sugar to 1 c. juice. Bring juice to boil, using not more than 3 c. at a time. Add sugar and stir until dissolved. Bring quickly to boil and test for jelly stage almost as soon as it reaches a boil. Remove from heat, let stand a few minutes; pour into sterilized jars and seal.

## Chokecherry Jelly

3 c. chokecherry juice 1 bottle commercial pectin  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  c. sugar

Wash about 3 lbs. fully ripe berries, stem. Add 3 c. water, bring to boil and simmer covered for 15 minutes. Place in jelly bag and let drain. Measure 3 c. juice into large saucepan. Add sugar and stir until dissolved. Bring to boil rapidly; stir in pectin immediately. Boil hard for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim, pour quickly into glasses and seal at once with paraffin. Makes 9 6-ounce glasses.

## Chokecherry and Crabapple Jelly

8 c. chokecherries 3 lbs. crabapples,  
2 c. water quartered, with water to cover

Simmer fruits separately and crush while heating. Strain through jelly bag. Combine 3 c. chokecherry juice with 3 c. crabapple juice and heat to boiling point. Add  $\frac{3}{4}$  c. sugar for each cup juice ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  c. sugar). Stir until sugar is dissolved. Boil rapidly until jelly stage is reached—approximately 18 minutes. Makes 12 glasses.

## Saskatoon Jelly

3 c. saskatoon juice  $7\frac{1}{2}$  c. sugar  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  c. lemon juice 1 bottle commercial pectin

To prepare juice, wash and pick over saskatoons, place in saucepan and mash. Heat gently until juice starts to flow; simmer covered for 15 minutes. Place in jelly bag and drain. Measure 3 c. juice into large saucepan; add lemon juice. Add sugar and stir until dissolved. Bring quickly to boil, stirring constantly. Stir in liquid pectin at once, bring to full rolling boil and boil hard 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim, pour into sterilized glasses and seal. Yields 11 6-ounce glasses. Allow 1 week for jelly to set.

## Cherry Jelly

$3\frac{1}{2}$  c. cherry juice 1 bottle commercial pectin  
7 c. sugar

Stem but do not pit 2 qts. sour cherries that are fully ripe. Crush thoroughly. Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. water, bring to boil and simmer, covered, 10 minutes. Place in jelly cloth or bag and squeeze out juice. Measure  $3\frac{1}{2}$  c. juice into very large saucepan. Add sugar and mix well. Place over high heat and bring to boil, stirring constantly. Stir in fruit pectin immediately. Bring to full rolling boil and boil hard 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim, pour quickly into glasses. Paraffin at once. Makes 11 6-ounce glasses.

## Raspberry Jelly

Use well-colored but firm berries. Wash, drain and weigh or measure. Crush in a shallow, flat-bottomed kettle. Add  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. water and juice of 1 lemon for each pound fruit. Boil 10 minutes at a moderate steady rate. Remove from heat and let stand 15 minutes to remove maximum coloring from pulp. Measure juice. If there is more than 6 to 8 cups divide into two portions and cook each separately. Heat to boiling, stir in sugar using 1 c. sugar per 1 c. berry juice. Boil rapidly until juice gives jelly test. Note— $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints fruit weighs 1 lb.

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refreshing

# Lettuce- Tomato Salad

with the

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## LETTUCE-TOMATO SALAD

Cut a crisp lettuce into four. On individual salad plates, place the quarter lettuce on leaf lettuce, with a tomato wedge on each side. Top with a generous serving of Miracle Whip Salad Dressing. You'll find Miracle Whip is equally delicious in cole slaw.

Save the 16-oz. and  
32-oz. jars for canning

The dressing "makes" the salad... and famous Miracle Whip Salad Dressing has a just-right flavor that millions prefer! Not too peppery, not too mild—delicious in salads and sandwiches. There's no other dressing in the world like Miracle Whip. See for yourself.



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## Salads

Continued from page 48

smooth and fluffy on the mixer. Add sour cream until of dunking consistency. Use for dipping in thin slices cucumber, cauliflower bits or fans.

### Ham Mousse

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 2 T. gelatin    | 4 tsp. Worcester- |
| 4 T. cold water | shire sauce       |
| 2 c. cold stock | 1 tsp. salt       |

- |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 c. cooked ham,<br>finely ground | Dash ground cloves     |
| 2 T. horseradish                  | Dash cayenne           |
| ½ c. mayonnaise                   | 1 c. whipping<br>cream |

Soften the gelatin in cold water, dissolve over boiling water. Add stock, ham and all seasonings. Fold mayonnaise into whipped cream, fold into ham mixture. Turn into mold. Chill until firm. Unmold, serve with carrot curls, tossed vegetable salad. Chicken may be substituted for ham, if desired. Serves 10.

## Yours for the Making

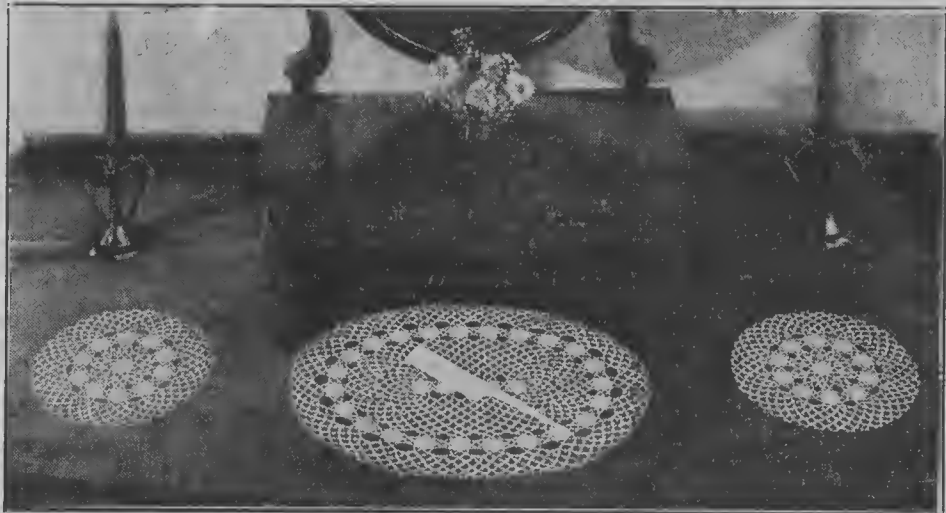
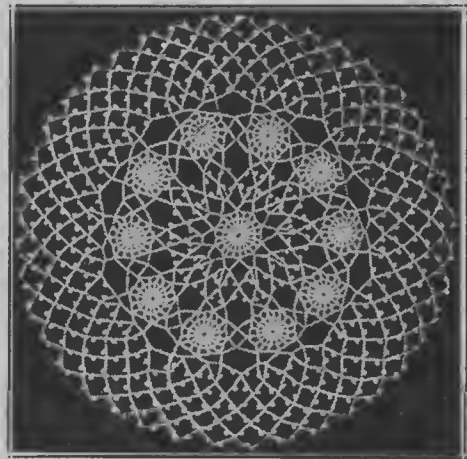
Attractive and useful items for the house

by FLORENCE WEBB

### Irish Linen Crochet

Design No. C-373

There are directions for making the smaller round doily and also for the oval one in this one pattern. Two doilies and one oval make attractive three-piece vanity or buffet sets. Singly the round doilies are lacy and dainty on cake plates or on small tables. The oval one alone is just right for a tray cloth. As you can see, they are easy to make and work up very quickly. Pattern is No. C-373. Price 25 cents.

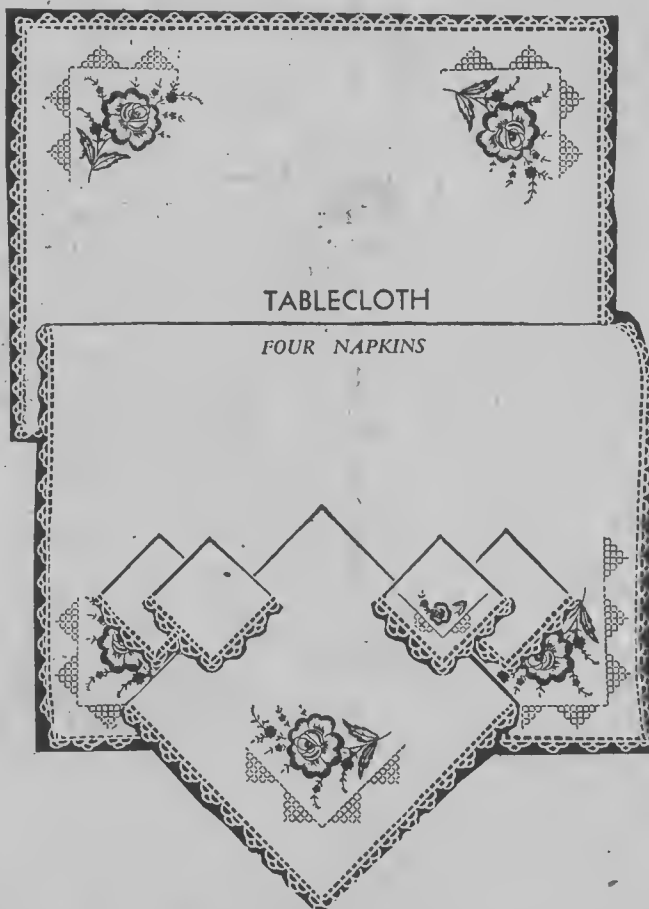


### Linen Luncheon Set

No. 875A

No. 875B

A full blown rose and other tiny flowers combine with attractive lattice embroidery to make this more than usually pretty luncheon set. The design is stamped on Irish linen, and goes to you complete with a working chart for stitches and colors. There are four serviettes. The cloth may be ordered in either 45x45 inches or, if you prefer a longer cloth for a long table you may order it in 54x45-inch size. The 45-inch square cloth and napkins is \$3.00 and is No. 875A. The 54x45-inch cloth and napkins is \$3.50 and is No. 875B.



Please note correct number and price.

Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Department, 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, Man.



# Beat the Heat

Little aids go a long way in looking cool  
and keeping comfortable in summer

by LORETTA MILLER

**B**EAT the heat and look your best! Preparation for the tasks at hand will do much to keep you cool and comfortable through the day. Your disposition won't be disturbed and you'll feel less fatigued at the end of the day.

Does your week start with the usual washing and ironing? Do these two chores wear you down and prevent you from doing other tasks? Unless your laundry is stupendous, you can and should arrange to do it the early part of the day. Wear the least possible clothing and be sure it is loose-fitting. Wear no stockings at all or wear half-hose that stop just below the knees, and loose-fitting shoes that allow ample room for the feet. Brush your hair straight back away from your face-framing hairline.

Arrange to do your work either in front of an open window or door, or, if possible, where you will be in a direct breeze. Have a basin of ice water, with either a fairly large piece of ice or several ice cubes, and in this dissolve a cup of salt. Also have a long, cool refreshing glass of iced tea or coffee, or some chilled beverage handy. Use a washcloth, saturated with the icy salt water, for washing your face and arms often. Let the salt dry naturally on your skin. Plunge your hands and wrists into the icy water for a minute or two whenever you feel uncomfortably hot.

If lunch time finds you with plenty of work still to do, try to take a few minutes' relaxation after luncheon dishes are done. It isn't the easiest thing, I know, to let work stand while the worker relaxes for a few minutes, but if it is at all possible to do this, it should by all means be done. A mid-day rest pays big dividends and prevents overfatigue which all too often plays havoc with one's appearance. Rub a liberal amount of lotion over your hands, brush your hair back, and lie with your feet slightly higher than your head. Relax as much as possible, if only for five minutes. You'll be glad you did! The afternoon's work will get done in record time, if you tackle it with a fresh zest.

Whether washing or ironing, arrange it so you can stand on a soft pad of carpeting. Be sure that wash tub or ironing board is the proper height for you and try to plan each step of the work with as few motions as possible.

**G**ARDENING can be back-breaking work, and it also can be used as an aid in keeping the figure slender. All the usual bending and stooping necessary when tending a garden will work in the gardener's favor, if the job is tackled cheerfully. If bending at the waist proves too tiring, carry a small box or stool along with you to use while weeding, or gathering vegetables. Keep your shoulders erect, or at least back, with your chest raised so that breathing is normal. Proper breathing aids in warding off fatigue.

A turkish towel wrung out in a salty solution and hung across the nape of the neck will help keep you cool while out in the hot sun. Use one end of the towel for wiping the brow and face, if you want to

freshen up a bit while working.

If you want to prevent your nails from getting soiled, dig them along a cake of soap before starting any dirty work such as dusting or gardening. Let the soap fill your under-nail tips so that soil can't get imbedded. Then, finished with your gardening, use warm water and a brush for loosening the soap and any dirt that might cling to it. Use hand lotion often, between outdoor jobs, if you want to keep your hands soft and feminine.

**P**RACTICALLY nothing contributes more to looks than a permanent wave in the summer. It simplifies hair-dressing, keeps one looking nicely coiffed and well groomed. If your hair is baby-fine, it's well to have it cut rather short after the permanent. Hair of coarser texture holds the wave and sets better than fine hair and can naturally be worn longer. The most practical length for hot weather is about two inches. When properly cut and shaped it can be shampooed, brushed into place and dried in an hour. Frequently brushing the hair with a stiff bristled brush helps keep the scalp cool.

A good cologne or toilet water with a clean, fresh fragrance is another summertime aid to feeling cool. Dash this cooling fragrance across the nape of your neck, over your chest and under-arms and in the crook of your elbow. Use a dusting on of body powder after your regular bath.

If it isn't possible to take cooling baths, fill a large tub or basin with cold water and stand in it while you take a sponge bath. Avoid scrubbing the body or frictioning a coarse washcloth over the body as these tend to arouse circulation and will prove heating. Instead, use a washcloth well lathered and rub it lightly over your body. Pat the skin dry and dust on the body powder. If you run out of your favorite powder you will find cornstarch a fine substitute.

Avoid a heavy makeup during the summer. Use soap and water for cleansing the facial skin and, instead of a makeup base or foundation, pat on just enough powder to give your complexion a groomed look. If you want to look as fresh as the proverbial daisy, accent your lips and eyes with makeup and forego the use of powder and cheek rouge.

Many doctors have recommended the taking of salt tablets or the drinking of a mild salt solution for people who perspire too freely. If abnormal loss of body salt, through excessive perspiration, is one of your major problems, ask your doctor about the use of salt.

Have a good foot powder on hand. Dust this powder between your toes after bathing them, and inside of your shoes before putting them on. These specially made powders have soothing and cooling elements that will help keep the feet comfortable.

Regardless of the job at hand, prepare ahead of time for it. Do all you can to make the day's chores pleasant. You will feel less fatigued at the end of the day. This will go far toward helping you beat the heat!

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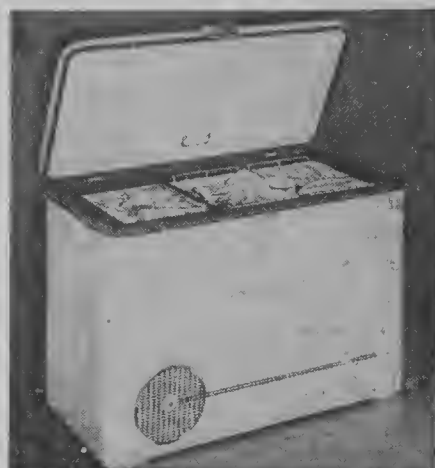
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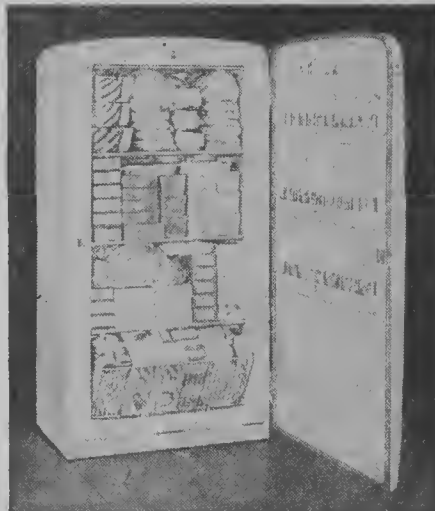
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No. 3578—Well-tailored slacks or pedal pushers have slightly tapered legs, one pleat at the front, a side zipper. Sizes 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32-inch waist (12 to 20 years). Size 28-inch waist (16) requires  $2\frac{1}{2}$  yards 35-inch or  $1\frac{3}{4}$  yards 54-inch for slacks,  $2\frac{1}{8}$  yards 35-inch for pedal pushers. Price 25 cents.

No. 4237—Blouse has rounded yoke, full back, collar in one with the front and dolman sleeves. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 14 requires  $2\frac{7}{8}$  yards 35-inch or  $2\frac{3}{8}$  yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4179—Slightly flared skirt fits up to size 44, has four gores, two patch pockets, one pocket and flap or belt loops and belt. Skirt hem width is 63 inches. Sizes 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36 and 38-inch waist (12 to 20 years; 40 to 44-inch bust). Size 34-inch waist (40) requires 2 yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 3968—A jumper and blouse for school or home. Blouse has dolman sleeves, and turtle or plain neck. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 15 requires for jumper with pockets 4 yards 39-inch, without pockets  $3\frac{3}{8}$  yards 39-inch, blouse 2 yards 39-inch fabric or  $1\frac{1}{8}$  yards 54-inch. Price 35 cents.

No. 4217—Suit blouse has bow tie or scalloped collar; fullness over bust originates at shoulder yoke. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40 and 42-inch bust. Size 18 requires  $2\frac{1}{4}$  yards 39-inch for full-length sleeves; 2 yards for short sleeves. Price 35 cents.

No. 4177—Bolero suit has tucks at the hip for flattery. Rounded jacket has set-in pockets, three-quarter sleeves. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires  $2\frac{5}{8}$  yards 54-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 4080—Simple-to-make jumper is cinched in with a belt, faced with bias. The blouse has three-quarter or short sleeves. Skirt width 50 inches. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires for jumper  $1\frac{3}{4}$  yards 54-inch crosswise stripe jersey, blouse  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yards 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 3980—Many-styled blouse to wear in or out, has a turtle neck or open round neck. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 or 18 years. Size 14 requires 2 yards 39-inch or  $1\frac{1}{8}$  yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 3981—This skirt flares to 129 inches. Weskit may be bound or faced. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires for skirt and weskit  $3\frac{1}{4}$  yards 39-inch quilted fabric or 4 yards 39-inch plain. Weskit only takes  $1\frac{1}{8}$  yards 54-inch, skirt  $2\frac{1}{8}$  yards 54-inch. Price 35 cents.

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Write name and address clearly. Note price to be included with order.

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## Simplicity Patterns





# Farming in Devon

*Interesting experience of a Saskatchewan girl on a British farm in South Devon*

by BERYL STONE

CANADIANS have an excellent reputation in England for being hard workers, and so when I inserted the following ad in the "Situations Wanted" column of the Devon and Exeter Gazette, in South-West England, "Canadian girl wants farm job, May-July," I was pleasantly surprised at the number of replies I received. English farmers realize that, with the help of machines, girls are capable of carrying out most of the farm jobs that Canadian farmers consider to be strictly man's work. Probably this awareness is due to the magnificent job the Women's Land Army did during the war in England.

I chose a 32-acre dairy farm. I arrived on May 8, equipped with gum boots, blue jeans and a good deal of curiosity as to how an English farm was run. The farm was situated about three miles from the market town of Honiton, once the home of a flourishing lace industry and possessing a small pottery factory where articles are made of the famous Devon clay.

A great deal of the farm was hilly, as the land was situated at the end of a valley. As there is frequent and heavy rain in Devon (a six-week period without rain is the official measurement for a drought), hilly land is preferable for reasons of drainage. However, the soil was heavy, black gumbo, immensely fertile, but capable of holding water even on a steep hillside. There was some "mole" drainage on the farm; a network of pipes about two feet underground, which channelled excess water into the ditches that mark off the boundaries of each field.

These attempts to drain the land are not completely successful and when I arrived, the farm was a soaking, oozy mass due to three weeks steady rain in April and early May. The pasture in which the cows were grazing was churned up almost like summerfallow, and valuable grass was turned under with each sinking step of the nine Guernsey cattle. Warm weather followed and the pastures dried, although evidence of the heavy rains remained throughout the summer in the frequent clods of turf and cracking soil. A heavy sort of a tennis-court roller was used to smooth out both pastures and hayfields, to permit the mower to pass evenly, and it was quite successful.

THE farm was small, even by Devonshire standards, and was operated as a one-man business, except for the hay-making season, for which I was hired. The farmer used a Ferguson tractor equipped for hydraulic attachments. I was very excited about learning to drive the tractor and was surprised to find that it was fairly easy. During the learning period I had an embarrassing experience. I had been instructed to bring the tractor down to the farm after finishing some field work. I tried to start it without success. I tried all the mechanical remedies I knew, and finally, in despair, reported to the boss in some fear and trembling, that the tractor wouldn't start. Remembering my almost complete ignorance,

the farmer started at basic issues and asked if I had turned on the key — and, of course, I hadn't.

During May, I was kept busy with odd jobs about the farm, as the hay was not yet ready for cutting. One of the great differences between that farm in Devon and those that I know in Saskatchewan, is that every acre in Devon is tended with as much thought and tenderness as we care for our gardens out here. I became used to hoeing thistles (the purple Scotch thistles, as well as the running thistle) in the pastures, cutting nettles in the hedges, and pulling docks (a pernicious weed with the same determined roots as our sowthistle).

The three pastures, which ranged in size from three to seven acres, were all bounded with hedges as well as ditches. "Hedging" and "ditching" is a full-time job for the Devon farmer. It involves trimming and cutting the hedges to keep them a reasonable size, and keeping the ditches and streams running. Another difference between Devon and Saskatchewan is evident here: our struggle is to make trees, grasses and grain grow; theirs is to keep the natural growth within bounds. I remember the horror I felt at seeing branches lopped off and hedges trimmed ruthlessly of growth, which would have taken seasons of careful nurture on the treeless plains of central Saskatchewan.

DURING the winter the cows are fed hay, mangolds (a kind of turnip), kale (a coarse, leafy vegetable), and a special variety of cabbage, which grows to an enormous size. The only cultivated field on the farm (about three acres in size) was planted to these crops. The field was carefully prepared: rolled and cultivated until the seedbed was very fine. The seedling cabbages, which were bought from a nursery, already averaged a foot in length when we planted them. The method used for fertilizing was quite original and very effective. So that the fertilizer should benefit only the plants, an ordinary watering can was used, and we poured the granular fertilizer through the spout of the can directly onto the rows where the seedlings would be planted. The plants came on at an amazing rate, and despite the attacks of the flea-beetle (the Devon counterpart of our grasshopper), occasional marauding crows and pigeons, and burrowing moles, the crop was most satisfactory.

Haymaking began in mid-June and, with occasional interruptions for rain, continued until mid-July. I had no idea of what a complicated business it is to make good hay. The tension during haymaking time was as high as in Saskatchewan when a precious crop of flax is almost ready for harvest, but can still be ruined by nature. The farmer used a hydraulic mower which shaved the field almost to the grass roots. The smell of the drying grass and clover was unforgettable, and it was a real pleasure to work in the hayfields — turning the windrows with a hand rake, "cocking" the hay when

rain looked imminent, and finally making the load on top of the hayrack.

The best hay was crisp and blue, and the smell of it nearly drove the cows distracted as they came in at night for milking. Rain took some of the goodness from the last loads, and the stack heated slightly with the effects of the rather green hay. Rabbits, the worst pest of the Devon farmer, did some damage; and the top of one meadow was as smooth as a billiard table with their nibblings.

The south-west counties, Devon, Somerset and Cornwall, are among the most beautiful in England. The fertility of the land and the lushness of the growth were a continual delight to me, although at heart I remain loyal to our rolling Saskatchewan plains. Farming is hard work the world over, but in Devon work is rarely fruitless, and the surrounding natural beauty is ample compensation for the rather muggy and drowsy atmosphere of this rainy corner of England. I left the farm in mid-July, but I left my gum boots behind as insurance that I would return to this "garden of England."

## Better Bee Business by Breeding Better-Bred Bees

THERE is a regional bee culture laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin, where research workers have an ambitious program before them. They are hoping that they can do more or less, with bees, what other research workers have done with livestock.

These are some of the things they hope to do. They want to get:

Queens that will lay more eggs; bees that will live longer and not be so ready to sting, and will resist bee diseases. They want bees that will trip the alfalfa flowers, will swarm less and will not build brace comb.

This is quite an order. Nevertheless, selective breeding has already brought some results. C. L. Ferrar of the University of Wisconsin, says that in 1951 the best line of bees averaged two and one-half times as much as the poorest line, and the highest yield was 363 pounds, which compares with 158 pounds for the average production of 15 lines of bees on test. This average, in turn, was 83 pounds more than the average for the state.

What the research workers hope to do is to develop inbred lines from outstanding queens and cross these to secure three- or four-way hybrids. The inbred lines would be weak and would have to be maintained and kept pure by proper management and artificial insemination.

Ferrar, who is in charge of the North Central States Bee Culture Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, says that in addition to improved bees, beekeeping itself needs some other revamping. He says it is one of the branches of agriculture which has not mechanized its operations in the last 50 years. He looks forward to central processing plants, which will relieve the average beekeeper from inefficient and expensive honey extraction. There is no reason, he thinks, why honey should not be extracted in separate plants, just as milk is processed by the dairyman in a special processing plant.

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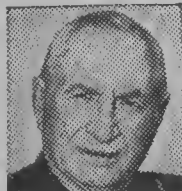
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## Lye Helps Many Ways In Farmhouse

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### CLOGGED DRAINS —

These are a nuisance, unsanitary, and if neglected will result in costly plumber's bills. To unblock bad stoppages, put 3 tablespoons of Gillett's Lye down drain, followed by a cup of hot water, allow to stand. Repeat if necessary. To keep drains free-flowing pour down two tablespoons of lye each week, followed by a cup of water.

### CLEANING STOVES

Lye is the natural enemy of greasy dirt that can gather and cake on, and in stoves. To speed cleaning: scrub with a stiff brush and a solution of 2 tablespoons of lye to a gallon of water.

### OUTHOUSES —

Sprinkle in half a cup of Gillett's Lye once a week. Helps dissolve contents and remove odors. Scrub premises with solution of 3 tablespoons per pail of water. Keeps out-houses spotless, sanitary, fly-free.

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First quality soap can be made for about 1¢ a big bar with lye. For best directions, see the label on the Gillett's Lye tin.

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## He Can Show Them

*Continued from page 10*

Both Frank and his cows appear quite contented with the arrangement.

The Rudd farm has two silos—one with a 200-ton, and the other with a 70-ton capacity. To provide the volume of feed needed, these are filled twice a year, in June and October.

In addition to the mangels and alfalfa, Frank's intensive cropping program includes a mixture of fall-planted wheat and vetch, to provide green feed for the early spring months. Using

his sprinklers to give the land a good soaking, he sows a crop of oats and peas on this ground around July 1, and the resulting crop goes into silage, load for load with the third crop of alfalfa.

LIKE most Canadian farmers, Frank has trouble finding a suitable labor supply. The higher wages of nearby timber industries lure most of the potential help away. Of his two daughters and one son, only his eldest daughter, Muriel, remains on the farm to help him now, although he gets some temporary aid from lumber

workers willing to devote their week-ends to casual employment.

Proud of his success with his suburban acres, Frank Rudd tells his favorite story: It concerns a farmer who had labored half a lifetime converting a piece of weedy, abandoned land into a productive farm. One day the local minister chanced by, and noting the fine showing of crops, decided to pay the farmer a compliment.

"My friend," smiled the padre, "it looks as if you and the Lord have been working together."

"Aye," the farmer admitted, a bit reluctantly, "but you should have seen the place when the Lord had it alone."

Down through the ages the well-being of nations has rested on the quality of the men who worked the land. It has been said that the first man was a farmer and the last man will be a farmer. First and last, Frank Rudd is a good farmer. One can pay him no higher tribute than that. V

## Five Crops In One Year

*In the race with nature for the protection of crops and animals, the scientist has learned to take shortcuts*

FIVE crops of wheat in one year seem a fantastic dream to most people. It is hard enough in most sections of Canada to be sure of one.

Nevertheless, research workers in the Cereal Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, can now plant, grow, harvest, and replant, crops of wheat and barley in periods of about ten weeks throughout the year.

The crops are grown in a small insulated room, known as a growth chamber. It is 12 by 20 feet, and is partitioned off from a corner of the basement in the cereal barn.

Seed is planted in two benches of soil placed under batteries of fluorescent light tubes. The tubes are arranged so that the intensity of their light can be regulated up to a maximum of 2,500 foot-candles. Humidity and air circulation can be closely controlled and the temperature regulated between 45 and 80 degrees. Fertility and composition of the soil can be readily adjusted, as in a greenhouse.

Under such conditions, the time required to grow and ripen a crop of cereal grain has been reduced to just over two months, and the crops can be grown during any period of the year.

WHAT is the purpose of this exact control?

Dr. C. H. Goulden, chief of the Cereal Division, who recently reported how a year was saved in producing the new rust-resistant wheat, C.T.

186, by growing a winter crop in California, is enthusiastic about the saving in time the growth chamber makes possible.

Nature's ability to develop new forms or races of plant pests (such as 15B rust of wheat) capable of attacking what were once thought to be fully resistant varieties, makes it imperative for the plant breeder to speed up production of new, resistant varieties.

Exact control makes possible a more fundamental study of the problem. What factor is it in plants that causes one variety to show more resistance to disease than another, when grown under the same conditions? It is the answer to this question that Dr. Goulden and his fellow workers, the plant pathologists, hope to find. The growth chamber technique will be a valuable aid in the search.

Meanwhile it is aiding the cereal breeder in other respects. Carl Fraser, who has done much of the work of breeding and testing new varieties of wheat at the farm, says it will reduce by at least five years the time necessary to produce and thoroughly test a new variety.

Under the old, one-crop-a-year system, it required a minimum of 12 years before a new strain could be qualified for recognition as a new variety. Five generations the first year in the growth chamber, followed by six years of testing and multiplying under field conditions, will give an equivalent check on its quality. V



G. Gfeller, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, looks over the wheat crop grown in the growth chamber in two months.

## Science and the Farm

The European sawfly found its way to Canada many years ago. It was discovered at Fredericton, New Brunswick, in 1935, by a federal entomologist. By this time, several thousand square miles of forest were being defoliated. Study of this insect was immediately begun and a search for natural enemies undertaken, of which a large number were collected in Europe. The most promising were liberated in the infested forests, where they multiplied rapidly and began to check the spread of the sawfly. About the same time, a virus disease was also found to be killing large numbers of the insects. The virus was multiplied and stored for use in forest areas, where it was not present. The combined attack by parasites and virus disease has now brought the sawfly under control. V

\* \* \*

Most people have a sweet tooth, and so, it seems, do cows. At the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station cattle liked grazing in certain areas of the pasture. Later examination determined the fact that the grass in that part of the field was higher in sugar content. The explanation seems to be that cows like pasture where the phosphorus content of the soil is fairly high; and that plants high in phosphorus always contain more sugar than those that are deficient in this element. V

\* \* \*

Grading eggs for color may soon be practical commercially. A machine which will do just that has been developed by agricultural engineers and poultry specialists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Beltsville, Maryland. It will separate eggs of any color from white to dark brown, and has repeatedly placed eggs in their proper color class. The machine is based on the fact that brown shells reflect less blue light than white shells. As the eggs pass over a candling device, a beam of light hits the shells and two photo-electric cells, or electric eyes, measure the reflected light. Eggs can be graded into six color classes in one operation, with each egg falling into the right compartment. V



## Seed Growers Meet

*Growers of pure seed from all parts of Canada congregated at Clear Lake, Manitoba, for their annual meeting*

**T**WENTY-ONE newer varieties of cereal grains, oil seed crops, vegetable crops and root crops were accepted for registration by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association at their annual meeting recently held at Clear Lake, Manitoba.

Some of the crops accepted for registration were Genesee (winter) wheat, Torch, Winter Turf and Shefford oats, Gateway, Husky, and Vellon 11 barley, Victory flax, and Antelope and Storm rye.

The meeting was told that out of a total of 233,537 acres of wheat, oats, barley and flax inspected in the field for registration, 34,530 acres were rejected. The association secretary, W. T. G. Wiener, felt that some of these rejects would have been passed if the grower had spent a few hours more roguing off-types. Mr. Wiener also pointed out combining and swathing of crops was introducing new problems in variety mixing. A true-to-variety crop could be mixed with seeds of another variety that had previously passed through the combine.

The general use of registered seed from Saskatchewan fields was reported upon by the Saskatchewan branch. In 1951, 3,000,000 bushels of wheat, oats, barley and flax were eligible for registered and certified seed in the province. Of this amount only 56 per cent was prepared as seed, 29 per cent went to elevators as commercial grain, and 15 per cent was carried over on the farm. A large part of the 56 per cent prepared as seed was exported; in the spring of 1952 only 700,000 bushels were seeded in Saskatchewan fields.

Reports from provincial officers highlighted the diversity of Canadian agriculture. Saskatchewan produced in 1952, some 38 per cent of the pure wheat, oats, barley and flax seed. Alberta put more emphasis on forage seeds. In British Columbia flower and

vegetable seed production is an important industry; in 1952 the province produced half a million pounds of sugar beet seed. The Fraser Valley and Peace River country are producing a large amount of forage seed.

Manitoba produces an important amount of forage seed in addition to cereal crop production. In 1952 Saskatchewan produced largely Thatcher seed, but 43 per cent of the field inspected wheat in Manitoba was Redman.

Registration in Ontario in 1952 included six varieties of winter wheat, eleven varieties of oats and four varieties of barley, as well as forage crops, corn, soybeans and tobacco. Most of the pedigree seed in Quebec is produced on the Experimental Stations and the Provincial seed farm, with production being largely cereal crops, hybrid corn, sugar beet seed and clover. Production in the Maritimes is largely cereal crops, with some production of forage, and swede and mangel seed.

James Farquharson, Zealandia, Sask., succeeded W. H. Baumbrough, Vernon, B.C., as president of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. Mr. Farquharson is now president of the Saskatchewan and the national organizations.

The directors named to represent various sections of the country are H. G. Hadland, Baldonnel, B.C.; George G. Goldberg, Camrose, Alta.; R. Webber, Berwyn, Alta.; S. Ingham, Balcarres, Sask.; G. South, Whitome, Sask.; Joe Murray, Solsgirth, Man.; J. Stewart, Ailsa Craig, Ont.; G. B. Rickard, Bowmanville, Ont.; Prof. E. A. Lods, Macdonald College, Quebec; T. J. Pratt, Hartland, N.B.

Directors representing the departments of agriculture of all provinces, with the exception of Newfoundland, were named by their respective ministers of agriculture. v

## Price Stability vs. Competition

*As agriculture moves from simplicity to complexity, stability becomes more difficult to achieve*

**A** CENTURY ago, farmers were not so vitally concerned about stable prices for what they produced. One principal reason was that a much higher percentage of the population lived on farms. Another was that farm families were much more self-sufficient, consuming a much higher percentage of what they produced, so that for this portion of what was produced, price did not matter as much.

Today, farms are much larger, the percentage of the population living on them much less, and a much higher percentage of farm income is expended in cash farm and living costs. The difference between cash outgo and cash income is therefore a relatively more important part of net farm income.

Farming, too, is a highly competitive industry. Farmers not only compete with each other within communities, municipalities or counties, but between various parts of a province, as well as between provinces and between countries.

This competition is by no means a simple matter. It is not merely a question of which individual, or group of individuals, are the better farmers. It involves a great many things such as the productive ability of soils, the price of land, the distance from a shipping point, the length and cost of the freight haul to market, the willingness and ability to produce in accordance with the demand of the consumers, the seriousness or otherwise of insect pests and diseases, and, above all perhaps, climatic conditions.

All of these circumstances and conditions meet in what is called "the market place." There they are likely to meet also, especially in the export market, certain of the results of governmental action, such as tariffs, subsidies, quotas and so on.

**T**HE consequence of this competition often is instability of prices, especially for the individual producer. As a result, farmers have continually sought for more stable prices. Gradu-

ally, governments have been drawn into efforts to help bring this about. As soon as this happens, however, artificial influences are introduced. Supply and demand can no longer operate naturally. To illustrate by an extreme example, Canada's outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease led to the piling up of millions of pounds of meat in the hands of the government, much of which the government still holds.

In recent years we have experienced long-term agreements for marketing our wheat to other countries—first, to Britain only, and later to 41 other countries, along with three other exporting countries. Now we are about to begin another three-year International Wheat Agreement period, in

which Britain has remained out, because she feels that the price of wheat will come down, whereas the other countries have agreed, tentatively at least, that \$2.05 is a fair price.

All of this serves to indicate that the whole world is feeling its way toward stability for agriculture in a period of great uncertainty and of great complexity. Canada is trying one method through the Wheat Board and the Agricultural Prices Support Act, and the United States and Britain are trying methods which they have believed are adapted to their own conditions. No country can be quite sure that the method it is now following will be followed ten, or even five, years from now. v

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# The Firemen Wore Big Boots

*Grass fires can do more than burn grass; gardens, too, may suffer*

by KERRY WOOD

A WHIFF of grass smoke got into my nostrils a moment ago, this being the time of year when folks rake up the rubbish in back yards and apply a match. It reminded me of my late father, who had something of a complex about burning dead grass . . . especially on days when a strong wind was blowing in the wrong direction.

"It's a grrrand day for burrrrning," he'd say, in his Glasgow dialect.

The family could not convince him that windy days were dangerous days for fire-lighting. He had a mania for keeping his garden and premises tidy, part of which entailed the burning of dead grass in the vicinity. Please understand that this is not recalled in an unkindly way, even though there were moments when my dad's fire-lighting caused us great concern. Remembering the trait now, I cannot help chuckling over the excitement he provided, and I'm still laughing over the way we got him to promise never to light another grass fire without the family being present. On that last occasion, you understand, the town fire brigade had to be called out.

I was a boy when he decided to burn the grass on a vacant lot next our home in the breezy city of Lethbridge. The grass was densely matted, with sticks and branches scattered throughout the lot. My dad dropped a match in the upwind corner, then strolled into the house to get a pail of water and a gunny sack with which to guard the fire. Being a frugal man, he did not wish to use a good gunny sack for such a chore, so he went down the basement to search for a worn-out bag to be used for fire-beating.

Meanwhile, the fire had caught and the tinder-dry fuel puffed up under the fanning wind. In a few seconds the flames were six feet high and still mounting. The blaze was headed straight for a chicken coop, a rickety building housing an unpenned flock which sorely plagued my father's garden. The lady who owned the chickens couldn't speak English, but she came storming out of her house screaming something in Russian that Stalin should have purged. My mother rushed out with a wet mop in hand, the two women frantically walloping at the fire while my six-year-old playmates and myself fetched lard pails of water and gleefully threw them hither and yon.

It was all over in a short time. The dirt lane acted as a guard at the far end of the lot while the two ladies managed to beat out the flames near the chicken coop — accompanied by the cackling of terrified hens and the excited crowing of the rooster. The neighbor was still spouting Russian, my mother was trying to sooth her in Scottish, we youngsters were stamping on the glowing coals, when my dad came up from the basement with a truly ancient gunny sack clutched in his hand. He looked over the blackened lot in silence, then turned and took the bag downstairs.

My older brother tells me we had some spectacular grass fires during the

time we lived in Calgary, but I was too young to recall the details. When we moved to the outskirts of Red Deer, my dad thought it was a good idea to burn off the rubbish in fields near his large garden plot and the whole neighborhood turned out to help put out that raging fire. It was a quick way to meet all the neighbors, the fire-fighting party ending up in our kitchen supping tea and munching on a fresh batch of treacle scones my mother had just made on the circular griddle she'd brought from Scotland. Waldo played his accordion, Mr. P. did Cockney imitations, while a go-ahead German couple took orders for dressed poultry from all those assembled.

There is no need to describe every fire my dad lit, nor even to mention the time when we lived next a cottage school and his fire threatened to jump the gravelled street and spark that building.

"The poor, innocent bairns," muttered my mother. "The frightened wee bairns!"

She was quite wrong about that, because the children who were in the school playgrounds at the time thought it was a wonderful fire, and they cheered and whooped and egged on the fire while my dad and a city workman and myself struggled to control it.

THE really big fire of my dad's later years was in the two-acre field behind a brick house we once owned, right in the residential section of our town. A friend was giving me a car ride to the post office to get my mail when I saw my dad apply a match to the grass. I should have stopped the car at once, but I wanted my mail that day, and the post office trip was less than a five-minute jaunt.

When my friend drove me back to our yard, the fire siren was wailing, the neighbor ladies were white-faced with worry, my wife was valiantly flailing with an old blanket at the edge of the blazing, smoking, blackened two acres of land, while the flames were threatening a pleasant tree copse to the north and prancing with determination toward a wooden privy that seemed to cringe away from the advancing conflagration. As for my father: he had a small washbasin in hand, filling it at the hose-tap and then trotting with a dignified 70-year-old gait, slightly rheumatic, and pouring the water on the blackened part of the field that was already out!

The fire department's truck careened down the avenue and pulled into a neighbor's yard, where the heavily laden vehicle sank to the axles in the soft garden soil. Meanwhile, my friend and I managed to subdue the serious parts of the fire, and by the time the brigade got the truck boosted out of the neighbor's garden, the fire was officially out. Some belated members of the volunteer brigade then arrived, running at full gallop across our own garden to reach the bright red truck. Their galloping boots put deep indentations on my dad's well-hoed and well-raked garden, and this made him furious.

"They'd no right to stamp all over my onions!" he raged. "Don't we pay taxes?"

This was his tirade to me, interrupting my plea that he never light another grass fire unless the family was present and we'd taken all the proper precautions.

"Look there!" he pointed, and I could see the Number 12 imprint of a boot, smack in the middle of the young lettuce.

It gave me an idea. I told him that if he ever lit another fire within the town limits, we'd certainly have to call out the fire department again — and there would be no knowing how

badly they'd trample his garden.

"Clod-hoppers!" muttered my dad, and promptly gave me his word he'd not light another grass fire unless the family approved.

He kept that promise, too. And one spring day when Marjory and I wanted to burn the grass off a neglected boulevard strip adjoining our property, my dad came hurriedly onto the scene and ignored all our precautions of sprinkler-cans, hose and wet gunny sacks.

"Be verra careful," he warned us. "Ah'm just getting the garden in shape, and we dinna want to call oot the big-booted firemen!"

## Agricultural Institute of Canada

*Thirty-third annual meeting and convention held this year at the University of Saskatchewan*

THIS writer has never yet seen a complete list of all the organizations which have been called into being to serve the needs of agriculture on a national, interprovincial, regional, municipal and community basis. The list, if compiled, would be a very long one indeed, even if only one of each individual type of organization were included as representative of all others of the same kind.

Among the many which have been organized nationally, and which include such organizations as the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, the Canadian Seed Growers Association, the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, and the numerous livestock breed associations, is the Agricultural Institute of Canada, which held its 33rd annual meeting and convention at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, during the last week of June. Institute conventions move from province to province in eastern and western Canada, alternating more or less regularly between the individual provinces in either region. Thus, it met in 1947 in Lethbridge; in 1949, in Vancouver; in 1951 in Winnipeg, and this year in Saskatoon. In eastern Canada it met in Guelph, Ontario, in 1948; in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island in 1950; in Ottawa in 1952, and will meet at Macdonald College, Quebec, in 1954.

Though not a rural organization, it is distinctly agricultural, because all of its 3,000 members are graduates in agriculture of some Canadian or other university of equivalent standing. As far as its officers know, there is no other organization in any other country of the world just like it. It has approximately 25 branches located in all provinces except Newfoundland, and including one in Great Britain. Its individual members follow a very wide range of occupations, ranging from farming and farm management to service in the agricultural departments of large commercial corporations. Scientists in all of the many branches of agricultural science make up a substantial proportion of the total membership, as do members of the faculties of agriculture in our universities, and staffs of the federal and provincial departments of agriculture.

The meeting and convention occupy four days. The annual meeting of the Institute takes up a day and a half, and the other two and a half days are occupied by meetings of organized

groups of specialists in several fields. The Institute has several sections, such as those for study of soils, horticulture and agricultural engineering, and a number of affiliated societies including the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society, the Canadian Society of Animal Production, the Western Canadian Society for Horticulture, and the Canadian Phytopathological Society (plant diseases).

THE Saskatoon event was the largest in the history of the organization. All told, including members of families and visitors, nearly a thousand people were present and, for the most part, were housed in various residences on the University campus. Official delegates numbered approximately 150, and members about 450. An interesting note was struck by Dr. W. P. Thompson, president of the University, in his welcoming address, when he admitted having been a charter member of the organization at its beginning in 1920.

During the convention period, some 95 scientific or semi-scientific papers were given in the various sectional and society meetings. It is here that individual members of the Institute are able to hear and discuss reports of experiment and research conducted in their own fields of work.

The annual meeting of the Institute is largely occupied with the consideration of reports of national committees, such as those on conservation, Institute policy, academic courses taught in colleges and universities, extension and, from time to time, special subjects which have been examined by a special committee during the year. Two important committees are those on fellowships and scholarships. The former are awards of merit to Institute members for service to Canadian agriculture, and the latter carry awards of \$1,000 to properly qualified and deserving graduates for post-graduate study in some special field of agricultural science. Scholarship awards, though sponsored and given by the Institute, are made possible by commercial institutions, including some farm organizations, who provide money for the purpose. In all, 90 such scholarships have been awarded in the past eight years.

The Institute will hold its next annual meeting and convention in western Canada in 1955, probably at the University of Alberta, Edmonton.



# The Country Boy and Girl



THE sun was shining and warm as Dick, Molly and Bob started off with a well-filled lunch basket. They had planned to picnic by themselves down at Hawk Slough. As they trudged along they passed a maple tree standing alone in the pasture. At the bottom of it, they noticed a very large ant hill. Hundreds of little red insects were hurrying here

and there. As they watched they could see that the ants were working and that they seemed to be divided into work parties. The first work gang was gathering small pieces of dry grass. One ant would grab the end of a piece of grass and pull it backwards.

"It's hard work for a little ant to steer that piece of grass around other twigs and pull it over this rough ground," said Bob, "Oh, look, another ant is helping him." Sure enough, a second ant had grabbed the small grass stem and together the two ants pulled and tugged at it until they had dragged it up the side of the ant hill. They left it there and went back for another piece. A second gang of ant workers was coming up and carrying off the grass stems, one by one to the center of the ant hill. A third work party was moving the stems inside the nest. "They must be relining their nest," said Dick. "Let's not disturb their nest. They have worked so hard." Off went the children to Hawk Slough.

*Ann Sankey*

## A Lad and His Lamp

by Mary Grannan

A SUDDEN summer storm had brought Kippy McCoomb racing into the house. The rain was pouring. The lightning was flashing, and the thunder was rolling.

"Kippy," said Mrs. McCoomb, as she looked at the dripping little boy, "hurry and take off those wet clothes."

"Yes, Mum," said Kippy, "and then what shall I do? I had so many plans for outdoors."

His mother laughed. "Dear me," she said, "your face is every bit as dark as the sky. Surely you can find some way to amuse yourself until the rain is over. Where's Rover? You and he usually manage to think up something."

"I'm not speaking to that dog," said Kippy. "He chased a rabbit."

"I wouldn't hold that against him," said Mother. "That's a natural instinct in any dog, and besides, I'm quite sure the rabbit got away. Now off with you, and change your clothes."

Kippy appeared a few minutes later, carrying a book. "I'm going to read," he said. "Look, I've got 'Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp.' I haven't read it for a long time. Mum, I wish I were Aladdin."

"I don't know if I like that or not," said Kippy's mother. "Don't you like being my little boy?"

Kippy hurried to explain himself. "I just wish it, because Aladdin had a wonderful lamp, and he'd light it and genii would appear, and they'd do his bidding, and things like that."

Mother accepted Kippy's apology, as she said, "But you have a much more wonderful lamp than Aladdin ever had."

Kippy's eyes widened, as he said, "I have?"

"Of course you have. You've got your flashlight. All you have to do is push a button, and you have light. Aladdin had to make fire with two sticks, and then before he could light his lamp, he had to fill it with oil.

I think your flashlight is much more magic."

"Yes, but I can't flash it three times, and have genii come to do my bidding," sighed Kippy. "Mum, where is my flashlight? It might be magic!"

"It's on the shelf there, right in front of your eyes," said mother.

"Oh yes," said Kippy, laughingly, "I'm pretty stupid, eh?" He climbed to a chair, got the flashlight, and said in solemn tones, "Magic lamp . . . oh la la lee . . . bring a genie here to me, one two, one two, one two three."

At the very moment that Kippy said 'three,' Rover leaped into the kitchen barking, "Wow wow wow wow."

Mrs. McCoomb doubled up with laughter. "I told you you had a magic lamp, Kippy. There's your genie," she said.

Kippy couldn't help laughing too, and he carried on with his game, playing that Rover really was a true genie, coming to do his bidding. "Genie," he said, "you have come to me, so take me off where I can see, a magic land where jewels grow, on the trees and flowers, oh, take me far, so far away."

Mother, still laughing, said, "Take him out of my kitchen, oh Genie, and take him right away. The rain has stopped, and the sun is shining again. And tell him, oh magic one, to take his magic lamp with him to the barn, and look there, to see if the red hen has laid any eggs in the loft. Begone."

The dog, and the lad with the lamp, left the house and ran toward the barn. They raced in through its door together, and Kippy, still playing at being Aladdin, said, "Oh Genie, be careful that you do not step on the red hen's golden eggs. Take thou, that side of the barn and I'll take this."

Rover didn't make an attempt to leap to the loft, as he usually did. He stood sniffing the air. Then he growled suddenly and leaped. He fell as suddenly back to the floor. He yelped in pain.

"What's the matter, Rover?" Kippy sighed in disgust. "Oh Rover, don't

you understand the game? I sent you for the red hen's golden eggs, not for a piece of red and yellow cotton. Did you find this in the loft?" said Kippy, as he turned the plaid bit of cloth over in his hands. Then he dropped it to the floor. Rover barked again, picked up the cotton and thrust it into Kippy's hands again.

"Oh, alright, alright," said Kippy. "I'll keep it, but what made you come down so quickly? Did something frighten you?"

There was a rustling in the hay above, and a fieldmouse jumped to a rafter. "Rover McCoomb," said Kippy in dismay. "I'm surprised at you! Frightened of a fieldmouse! Shame on you!"

But Mrs. McCoomb called then, that luncheon was ready, and they dashed toward the house together.

During the meal Mr. McCoomb, who had been into the city for supplies, said, "Oh, by the way, there was quite a bit of excitement in town today. The central bank was held up, and the robber got away with a large sum of money."

"Haven't they caught him yet?" asked Kippy.

"No," said his father, "but the roads are patrolled. They think it won't be too hard to find him. He was wearing a red and yellow plaid shirt."

Kippy gasped, and leaped to his feet. "I know where he is, Dad. Rover and I know where he is."

"What do you mean, son?" asked Mr. McCoomb.

"Look," said Kippy, bringing the bit of red cotton from his pocket. "Rover brought this down from the hayloft, when he fell. I thought he was frightened of a fieldmouse, but now I know that the burglar kicked him. Dad, what are we going to do?"

"We're going to call the police. They'll have him in short order. I suppose he went into the barn during the storm, and intended to lie low until dark."

That night the newspaper had a story on its front page about a Lad and His Lamp, and a genie, named Rover.

## Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 18 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS

AS every farm boy knows, fancy footwork is not in the same class with a bucket of oats, when it comes to catching a horse. For one thing the horse has twice as many legs to carry him.

However—assuming that the horse is not yours and therefore you are not aiding in the pursuit—there are a number of interesting things for you to note as the chase goes by.

First, the horse is a trotter—that is, when his right foreleg is advanced, the left hind leg follows suit, and vice versa. If he were a pacer, both legs on the same side would move forward together. Now look at the man. You will notice that he is also a "trotter"—his left leg being forward in the run, his right arm comes forward correspondingly and the right leg and left arm are extended back. Mark this well. This is a very important thing to remember and look for when drawing people or animals in action.

Skeleton or stick figures (A) are often helpful in seizing the big lines of any pose, though most artists use instead a few flowing lines (B) as a memory note of some particular action. Such lines are notes only. They cannot be utilized without close and detailed study of the animal or person at rest.

This brings up another important rule: never try to study or draw details such as fur texture, feather patterns or horseshoe nails on anything in motion. If it is motion you are after, look *only* for the things that express that motion—big sweeping curves, short, choppy movements, blurring of arms, legs or wings, dust stirred up behind, mane, hair or tail flying in the breeze. All of these things belong to motion—get them down in the fewest possible lines.

Practice will tell you what is important and what can be left out. Anything that does not express action, leave out.



## THE Country GUIDE

with which is incorporated

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME  
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### Election Coming Up

THIS is election year in Canada, with the main event only a few weeks away. Three preliminaries have been run off in the provinces, and though the British Columbia count is not yet completed as we write, it looks as though the winners in all cases can collect the rewards of political virtue, without having to move anywhere to get it. The mountain had already come to Mahomet.

There are conflicting views about politics, one saying that it is the science of how who gets what, when, and why; another, that it is the art of human happiness. Similarly there are, invariably, conflicting views about governments, which in temporal affairs are "the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen." Unfortunately, we tend as human beings to divide into two or more camps as to what we mean by either half of the quotation; and especially at election time, the mind of man fails to be a unifying force. Governments exist because of the conflict of ideas. These surge with irregular purpose throughout the human mind, only to find individual expression in the larger affairs of society, as a single dominant mark made secretly with a pencil once in every four or five years.

Once the rite is performed, we relax: we have given our hostages to freedom, and by so doing we have placed upon the shoulders of the elect, the onus of justifying our wisdom. Little do we think that what we have done, more than half the world still cannot do. None may do so behind the Iron Curtain, or in China. Many millions in Africa cannot vote at all. Egypt, with uncounted centuries of history behind her and only now free of a dissolute monarchy, has but the promise of freedom. A child little more than six years of age is as old as political freedom in India. We in Canada have possessed it for little more than a century; and our nearest neighbor, for less than two centuries.

We can be prouder of its possession, than of what we sometimes do with it. Because we are what we are, those whom we elect tend to reflect both our wisdom and our folly. Governments also age, as do individuals, and show the effects of it in the form of ripe experience, mediocrity or political senility. Always there are opposing parties to argue mediocrity or senility, but the elector must be the judge of his political fare. Always he must be ready, like Samuel Johnson, to say: "This was a good enough dinner, to be sure, but it was not a dinner to ask a man to."

### Wheat Agreement Prospect

THE passage of time tends steadily to prove that the maximum price of \$2.05 under the new three-year International Wheat Agreement was the fairest price that could have been established under the circumstances.

As this is written, the Canadian Wheat Board Class II price is barely above two dollars. July wheat on the Chicago market dropped to \$1.89 from \$2.25 in mid-April. The president of Manitoba Pool Elevators is reported as having told the annual meeting of the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation, late in June, that Canadian growers may be receiving the floor price under the Wheat Agreement (\$1.55) within the next two or three years.

These evidences of declining prices are the result mainly of the accumulation of surpluses in North America. The United States will have approximately a billion bushels of wheat for export during the 1953-54 crop year, beginning July 1. This is not far from an average crop in recent years. Canada undoubtedly will go into the next crop year with more than a full year's crop available or in sight, for export, perhaps 550 million bushels. Thus, these two principal suppliers would have between them

some 1,500 million bushels of wheat, which must be sold or given away to other countries. During the present U.S. crop year (July 1-June 30) United States exports have fallen about a third below the 485 million bushels exported in 1951-52. Canada's exports of wheat and wheat flour, for the first nine months of the crop year, were up about 11 per cent at 250 million bushels, and may boost last year's 356-million-bushel export to nearly 400 million.

Most of the blame for the wheat surpluses goes to the United States, where, despite the surpluses in prospect, the government support price for the Chicago area has been about 50 cents per bushel above the Chicago market. When the war in Korea broke out, Washington declared a food emergency and American farmers were given the green light. For the last few years U.S. wheat acreage has been about 78 million acres, or 40 per cent above prewar. The U.S. acreage increase was, in fact, only a little less than the total Canadian wartime acreage. Under the U.S. price support law, acreage should, in view of the accumulated surpluses, be brought down to 55 million by the application of "wheat acreage allotments," following a favorable vote of the growers. The chances at present are that Congress will avoid such a sharp reduction, and will fix on an acreage for 1954 in the neighborhood of 66 million.

Canadian farmers, on the other hand, have not been advised to increase acreage since the war. Such surplus as we have has been partly in response to postwar prices, but substantially because crop seasons have been favorable and record crops have resulted in the last two seasons.

Likewise, while we are disappointed that Britain has not seen fit to come into the new three-year Wheat Agreement, we regard such a decision as her affair. Not so at least one U.S. senator from North Dakota. Senator Langer, chairman of a Senate subcommittee on foreign relations, which was considering the renewal of the Wheat Agreement, thought Britain should co-operate in the Agreement out of gratitude for the aid advanced her in recent years under the mutual security program. One wonders who was expected to be grateful when the U.S. entered the Washington meeting of the International Wheat Council with a demand for a maximum Wheat Agreement price of \$2.50.

### Science and the Farmer

THE agriculture of many large countries, such as Canada, is necessarily a vast, sprawling, highly variable industry, consisting of relatively small separate businesses. By its very nature it is highly competitive: it is, in fact, about the only industry in which a substantial element of true competition still exists.

The primary business of the farmer, the production of food, is vital to the welfare of humanity; but until recently, governments have not found it necessary to take special note of its importance. New and undeveloped land was still relatively plentiful in Canada, and throughout the world. Farms were becoming larger and less numerous, while consumers were growing in number. Farmers, too, were individualists. Because their business could only grow horizontally, they were widely scattered, whereas people who worked in urban centers found themselves climbing higher to get to work. The nerve center of the multi-million dollar business might be twenty storeys from the ground, whereas the farmer's business—ranching, for example—might grow for miles in either direction, but never higher than the haymow or the top of the windmill. Farm business and farm life were "different" from urban life and business, and most people were content to leave it at that.

The period of ferment through which the world is now passing, is exerting a marked influence on this attitude. Two world wars, inflation, the impact of science and mechanization, our increasing international interest and obligations, and our growing interest in the causes of war, have each produced some effect. So true is this that it is now regarded as both important and unfortunate, that world food production has increased only ten per cent since 1937, while industrial production has increased by 75 per cent. An increase in world population of 15 per cent during the same period, makes of these figures a warning of coming danger.

Since the close of the war, practically all of the free world has depended on North America as a source of surplus food. Very large surpluses have been available, partly resulting from a series of good crop years, partly from a remarkable development of mechanization encouraged by the growing scarcity of labor, and partly from an equally remarkable upsurge of scientific aids to farming, which many farmers have been prompt to take advantage of. It is probably correct to say that among grain growers in the prairie provinces today, as well as among Canadian producers of livestock, poultry, fruits and vegetables, there are numbers of the more progressive producers, who are substantially ahead, in producing ability, of the place our universities and experimental stations occupied in 1937. This, too, despite the normal 20-year lag between the discovery and the application of scientific truth.

Unfortunately, this is not true of the majority, many of whom have failed to realize that production per acre, or per man hour, is the real determinant of net income. It is silly to suggest, as some have done, that the farmer should produce less because prices are falling: on the contrary, he should produce more—of something. It may be that he would be wise to produce less wheat or milk, or fewer pigs or poultry, in one year than in another, but his net income is bound to increase, in relation to current prices and costs, as he raises the volume of his annual production and lowers his costs.

Today, long hours and plenty of muscle are not enough. The science of economics is gradually placing a sounder business foundation under farm management. Other sciences—botany, chemistry, physics, entomology, bacteriology and nutrition—all of the sciences which meet in the production of healthy animals and plants—are increasingly at the service of farmers who will use them, to produce more per acre, or per man hour, including profit. The art of farming and the science of the farm meet in successful farm management today, as never before.

### Mr. Benson's Big Job

EZRA TAFT BENSON, secretary of Agriculture under President Eisenhower, has two man-sized jobs on his hands. One of these is to work over the huge, many-bureaucratic United States Department of Agriculture, and make it into a more economical instrument for the advancement of agriculture in that country. He has already made one or two moves in this direction. The other, and perhaps more important problem for the immediate future, is to re-design United States farm policy.

Mr. Benson is a practising farmer, a co-operator of much experience, and like many good agriculturists in our own southern Alberta, an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon). His approach to farm policy, put very briefly, seems to be that the parity principle—the basis of U.S. farm policy—is sound enough. Fifteen years of operation under the periodic manipulations of Congress, however, have created an unsound situation, disturbing to the national economy.

In other words, trial and error, plus political tinkering, have resulted in a price barometer for the farmer, which cannot forecast anything but fair weather. Prices no longer perform their true function of recording the interaction of supply and demand. When government guarantees are so high that millions of pounds of food are piled up in storages and cannot be sold, except at a very great loss, neither the farmer nor the consumer is well served. The consumer pays an unnecessarily high price for food, and the farmer has little or no encouragement to use his better judgment as to what should be produced on his farm.

Mr. Benson has favored a free market farm economy over "government bounty," but believes government price supports "should provide insurance against disaster." During the year before present provisions cease, he proposes to draft a long-range farm program with the aid of farm organizations, industry, professional agriculturists and members of Congress.